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INTERNATIONAL LABOR NEWS SERVICE

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Is Your Congressman Among Those 'Greatly Disturbed' Over Requests For Curbing Rights of 'All' Labor?

Current Reports Are That Some Pre-Election Friends of Labor Are Wavering Because of Many Letters Received From People "Back Home" Who Are Down on Strikes and Down on Labor—A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Editor Suggests Bombardment of Letters From Unionists to Offset Effect Disturbing Ones Are Having on Supposedly "Friendly" Congressmen.

By PHILIP PEARL, in "Facing the Facts", A. F. of L. Weekly News Service

Congressmen are getting a lot of mail these days about strikes. One of them was telling us about it the other day. He was quite disturbed. He said he was a friend of labor. He said he was going to remain a friend of labor. But he was more than a little worried about some of his brother Congressmen. He feared their loyalty to labor might be wavering because of the letters they were receiving. These letters came from the voters back home. They were down on strikes and they were down on labor.

Now our friend, the Congressman, had a bright idea. "Why don't you fellows start writing letters to your Congressmen?" he asked. "The workers are voters, too, and the Members of Congress realize it. But they have not heard from you. Why don't you tell your Congressman the workers' side of the case?"

Well, the truth is we don't have a Congressman. We when we did. But we live in the District of Columbia, where the so-called sovereign citizens —650,000 of them—don't have a vote, and don't have a Congressman. So at first we regretfully passed our friend's bid. Then, we got to thinking it over and we decided not to let a little thing like not having a Congressman stop us from writing a letter to him. We figured that if we did write a letter, even to an imaginary Congressman, we might start something that our friends in the labor movement might follow up. So here goes:

THE SAME SPEECH

My Dear Congressman:—How are you? I haven't heard from you in a long time, ever since I helped to elect you last November. My name is Joe Blank, remember? I served on the labor committee that rolled up a 90 per cent vote for you in the west side factory district. You told us you were labor's friend, remember? I believed you then, but I'm beginning to wonder a little now.

I'll tell you why. You made a speech

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A. F. OF L. OPPOSED TO COOLING-OFF BILL

President Green Says Its Passage Aims a Dangerous Below-the-Belt Blow at Organized Labor.

Declares In A Letter to Members of Congress That Vinson Bill is A "Form of Legislative Compulsion" That is "Tremendously Offensive" to Free American Workers—Says Enactment Would Create Hatred and Enmity in Minds and Hearts of Labor Toward Congress and Government.

The American Federation of Labor has launched an all-out effort to defeat the Vinson Bill which, under the guise of promoting uninterrupted production in defense industries, aims a dangerous below-the-belt blow at organized labor.

President William Green, in a letter to each member of the House of Representatives, declared the bill is a form of legislative compulsion that is "tremendously offensive to free American workers."

According to press reports, the Vinson Bill stands a good chance to pass the House unless there is a sudden change in sentiment, despite the fact that the Roosevelt Administration and all liberal forces are solidly opposed to it.

Therefore, it is important that labor rally all of its power and influence in opposition to the bill. Its passage in the House would be considered a victory for labor's enemies, even though it stands practically no chance of getting through the Senate.

The text of President Green's letter to the members of he House of Representatives follows:

"H. R. 4129, of which Congressman Vinson is the author, is highly objectionable to the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor. For that reason I am appealing to you to vote against the adoption of this proposed legislation.

"The enactment of this measure will arouse deep feeling and discontent among the workers of the nation. This would be unfortunate, because of the need of the moment is unity in thought, purpose and action on the part of all classes of people.

"Why should labor, and particularly the members of the American Federation of Labor, be made the object of such a legislative attack at a time when all efforts possible on the part of our leaders of the American Federation of Labor and the membership as well are directed toward the promotion of the National Defense program?

A. F. OF L. "NO STRIKE" POLICY

"The American Federation of Labor has officially adopted a 'no strike' policy in defense industries. In our efforts to carry out this 'no strike' policy we have made a splendid record. Through the efficient service of the

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FORD RECOGNIZES AFL AS BARGAINING AGENT FOR ALL ITS MEMBERS

Unionists in River Rouge and Lincoln Plants Given Recognition—Grievance Committee Machinery is Set Up, Reports Murphy.

According to last Saturday's issue of the Detroit Labor News, in a statement issued by John J. Murphy, director of the A. F. of L. Ford campaign, the Ford Motor Company has agreed to recognize the American Federation of Labor as the collective bargaining agency for its thousands of members in the River Rouge and Lincoln plants of the company.

"This," Mr. Murphy states, "marks the first time in the history of the Ford Motor Company that it has agreed to bargain collectively for their automotive production workers with the American Federation of Labor.

"In accordance with the agreement, a grievance committee will be installed in both of the Ford plants. All grievances of the Ford workers involved—and these workers constitute a great majority—will be settled through the intelligent application of the grievance committee. Those grievances which cannot be solved by means of the committee's efforts will be settled by an

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NEW YORK GOVERNOR VETOES BILL CHANGING DATE OF LABOR DAY

Albany, N. Y., May 7 (ILNS).—Gov. Herbert H. Lehman has vetoed the bill changing the date of Labor Day this year from September 1 to September 8.

Counties visited by seasonal tourists asked the bill on the ground that the summer business stops on Labor Day and that coming on the first of the month this year it would cause considerable financial loss.

In a memorandum accompanying his veto, Governor Lehman noted that Labor Day had become a holiday celebrated throughout the nation, and that to have New York State observe a different day would not be right.

"This is a day in honor of labor and all the labor organizations oppose the bill," the Governor pointed out.

FACING THE FACTS

By PHILIP PEARL
(A. F. of L. Weekly News Service)

Has organized business adopted a more intelligent attitude toward organized labor?

That would be good news, if true. And we are beginning to believe there is some truth in it.

For instance, twice within the past few months the United States Chamber of Commerce issued statements opposing compulsory anti-strike legislation. Both statements emphasized that the only way to get results in the defense program is through voluntary cooperation between industry and labor.

Now that is just what the American Federation of Labor has been saying all along. It is encouraging to note that organized business realizes that compulsory legislation, such as the Vinson Bill, would disrupt national defense rather than expedite it.

The position of the United States Chamber of Commerce is one more heartening because it implies a willingness on the part of business to cooperate and bargain on fully terms with labor. An organization of businessmen might ordinarily have enthusiastically supported the Vinson Bill. At the least, the natural expectation would be that such an organization would keep hands off so that it would not be suspected of engineering the anti-labor. Therefore, outright opposition comes as a welcome surprise.

A BUSINESS LESSON

Because of these developments, we watched the progress of the recent annual convention of the United States Chamber of Commerce with more than usual interest. We cannot say that the meeting was exactly pro-labor, but there were further indications of a developing consciousness among businessmen that it is better business to

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C. L. U. AND BUSINESS MEN OF MILLINOCKET HAVE "WELCOME" SIGN OUT FOR A.F.L. DELEGATES

While Plans for Annual Convention of the State Federation of Labor, Which Opens on June 10th, Have Not Been Announced, Local Central Body Officials Are Sparing No Means to Make Delegates' Stay While in Millinocket as Pleasant as Possible.

By JOHN F. WHEELER, Vice-President, Millinocket Central Labor Union District, Maine State Federation of Labor

Millinocket, Me., May 10.—Millinocket is looking forward to the date of June 10th, and the week of June 8th, for on the latter day the delegates to the annual State Federation of Labor convention will start to arrive in our Magic City. There has as yet been no communication as to the plans for the convention sent out to affiliated locals so it may be well to state here that those who wish to have rooms reserved may write to the Great Northern Hotel at Millinocket, or to the writer at 21 Penobscot avenue.

The rates at the Great Northern Hotel start at $1.50 and with bath, $2.50. There are many rooms which can be had outside of the hotel, and these are in very nice places which are also very close to the hotel, which will be convention headquarters. The rates in these outside rooms start at $1.00 per person. It is possible to get very nice rooms for two as low as $1.50 per day. Everybody with whom the writer has come in contact has been very ready and willing to help make the stay of the delegates as pleasant as possible.

A more or less early Spring has removed our snow and ice, and all signs point to ideal conditions for those who wish to see the wonders of our section of the State. Those who attended the last convention held in Millinocket will

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Portland C.L.U and Truck Drivers' Anniversary Banquet at Eastland Hotel May 3rd Proved Big Success

More Than 400 Delegates, Members and Friends Join in Fine Celebration Commemorating Success of Parent Body and Local Union —Boston Truck Drivers Represented by Large Delegations—E. A. Johnson Brought Message from President Green.

The writer has attended many fine union affairs in Portland during the past ten or more years, but none of these compared with the anniversary banquet, dance and entertainment sponsored jointly by the Central Labor Union and Truck Drivers and Warehousemen's Local 340, at the Eastland Hotel on Saturday evening, May 3rd.

DAVID J. HASTINGS
Master of Ceremonies, Joint C. L. U. and Truck Drivers' 340 Banquet

The affair which marked the 41st anniversary of the Portland Central Labor Union and the fourth anniversary of Truck Drivers' Local 340, was attended by more than 400 delegates, members and friends, a goodly number of whom were from Boston and other out-of-state drivers, have settled their differences with the union, and the strike was called off April 9th after more than a month of unsuccessful negotiations with employers.

Included in the terms of agreement are increased expenses for drivers required to lay-off away/from home; trucks must be equipped with suitable heaters and defrosters; that time clocks be installed at terminals when requested by the Business Agent.

Further terms in the agreement provide that:

"The employer agrees to be a contributing employer under the Maine Unemployment Compensation Law, as amended, and to carry Workmen's Compensation, as provided in the provisions of the Maine Compensation Laws, as amended.

"In cases where employes enlist or are drafted to serve our country in a national emergency, such employes must report for duty within three months from being honorably discharged from such service, and upon so reporting shall be restored to the position and seniority held by him at the time of his enlistment or being drafted.

"In case of war, a 30-day notice is provided for reddjustment of wages and hours after April 1, 1942.

"A joint committee has been provided to iron out differences of opinion between employers and employes or report breach of agreement."

Without forfeiting the eight-hour day for city employes, wage increases were granted as follows: City drivers, from 91 cents per hour to 97 cents; helpers and floormen, from 82 cents to 87 cents; city drivers of ten-wheelers and semi-trailers, checkers, working foremen and riggers' helpers, from 87 cents to 92 cents; over-the-road drivers, no change including five-ton, from

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Settlement of Truck Drivers' Strike On May 5th Following a Month of Negotiations Brought Good Results

Settlement Includes Contracts With 40 Truck Owners Operating Between Maine and Massachusetts, Benefiting More Than 600 Local and Out-of-State Drivers—Terms of Agreement Include Increased Wages and Other Important Concessions.

By DAVID HASTINGS, Secretary, Truck Drivers, Warehousemen and Helpers' Union No. 340

The following are highlights in the settlement of our recent strike:

About 40 interstate companies doing business between Massachusetts and Maine, employing about 600 members of Truck Drivers' Local 340 and as many more from Boston and other out-of-state drivers, have settled their differences with the union, and the strike was called off April 9th after more than a month of unsuccessful negotiations with employers.

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Ford N. L. R. B. Election Of Employes Scheduled For Wednesday, May 21

The 85,000 employes of the Ford Motor Company at the River Rouge plant in Detroit will vote to determine their collective bargaining agency at an election to be held under supervision of the National Labor Relations Board on Wednesday, May 21st, it was announced yesterday.

The election, according to a statement by the Labor Board, will be the largest single plant election on record and it is expected more than 90 per cent of the 85,000 workers will cast their votes to determine as to whether they wish the A. F. of L. or the CIO as bargaining agency.

The Board regional office also has scheduled an election at the Ford Lincoln plant, employing about 3500 men, for the same day. Both elections will involve production and maintenance workers. Pattern makers at the Rouge plant, numbering about 300 men, will take part in a separate election pairing the UAW-CIO against the A. F. of L. Pattern Makers' League of North America.

In a statement issued by John J. Murphy, in charge of the A. F. of L's interests in the election, he is quoted as having said: "We'll give the CIO its worst licking." Mr. Murphy, in previous statements, predicted a great victory for the A. F. of L., claiming that workers in the Ford plant were joining the A. F. of L. union by thousands.

Public rallies, held by both the Federation and the CIO during the past month marked the greatest activity ever experienced in a union organizing campaign, according to the Detroit Labor News, which in a recent issue also predicted victory for the A. F. of L. union.

New York Paper Names John L. Lewis With Others Who Benefitted From Millions in Sinclair Oil Deal

Article in May 5th Issue of PM Named "Pat" Hurley, Former War Secretary, and W. L. Davis, Oil Operator, Who With Lewis Engineered Deal Whereby Sinclair Company Was Paid $4,000,000 by Mexican Government—Lee Pressman, CIO Counsel, Also Implicated in Big Oil Deal.

(The following article by George E. Leedy and Kenneth G. Crawford is reprinted from the May 5 issue of PM:)

Washington, D. C., May 5.—The Consolidated Oil Corp., a Sinclair company, announced last week that it had received a payment of $4,000,000 from the Mexican Government. Within the next two and a half years the company will get $4,500,000 more. The two payments will settle claims growing out of expropriation of the owners's Mexican oil properties in 1938. The agreement was signed last May —before both Mexico and the U. S. A. had held their Presidential elections.

The settlement was arranged by Pat Hurley, former Secretary of War; William Rhodes Davis, the oil operator, and John L. Lewis, the labor leader. Just how these three men happened to get together over Harry F. Sinclair's Mexican troubles we do not know. The story credited by oil men is that Mr. Sinclair, eager to regain possession of his Mexican properties, retained Mr. Hurley to conduct the negotiations. Mr. Hurley, knowing that Mr. Davis and Mr. Lewis had co-operated in Mexico and were on good terms with the Cardenas Government, asked them to intercede for Mr. Sinclair in Mexico City.

Mr. Davis has claimed credit for devising the formula on which the final peace terms were based. He has said that he was called into consultation by Mr. Lewis after Mr. Hurley had asked the former head of the CIO for advice. Mr. Lewis was interested in re-establishing friendly relations between Mr. Sinclair and the Mexicans because the Sinclair company operated in the U. S. A. under

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"Danger Signal" Is Still Out Against Communist Control in This Country

While It Seems That Experiences of Workers in Central Europe Should Stand As Everlasting Warning, That Same Danger Which Spelled Ruin and Degradation is Here in Our Midst—May Day Not Traditional Holiday of Other Times.

By PHILIP PEARL in "Facing the Facts", in American Federation of Labor News Service

In the days before Mussolini and Hitler, May Day was a day of parades in the industrial cities of Europe, parades with a few riots and demonstrations thrown in. The usual headlines of the following morning would read something like this: "Twenty Dead in May Day Riots." There were even a few such affairs in this country.

May Day then was the traditional Labor Day of Europe, especially of the more radical labor groups. It was field day for the Communists, who would busily organize trouble for weeks beforehand and then duck out when the fighting started so that usually innocent workers suffered the broken heads.

On this May Day there will be no riots in the cities of Europe, even though there will still be parades. This year Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin are organizing the parades and they do not permit riots within their own ballwicks.

The parades this year will not be a march of free and independent working men, but a procession of slaves, a goose-step of robots. The workers of Europe are no longer free. They have been completely subjugated by Dictators. They have no rights, no privileges, no will of their own. They are merely the work-slaves of the state. And, to tell the truth, the fault is to a large extent their own.

The workers of continental Europe were led astray and pursued strange paths and worshipped false Gods.

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Court Decision Positively Has No Effect on Plan for Re-affiliation of Typographical Union With A. F. L.

Members of local Typographical Unions, who expressed pleasure over the new arrangement brought about between representatives of the I. T. U. and the American Federation of Labor which will make possible the re-affiliation of the former by favorable action at the referendum vote to be taken by members on May 21st, were much displeased over the attitude assumed by Secretary-Treasurer Woodruff Randolph, who, in the Typographical Journal for April, referred to recent court ruling as a "danger sign" should the referendum favor re-affiliation.

In beginning his article, Secretary Randolph says, "It is fortunate for us the decision of the Federal Court in the case of the Brewery Workers' Union against the A. F. of L. and the Teamsters' Union comes soon enough to prevent the International Typographical Union from making a very definite and

Throughout the six pages which Secretary Randolph devotes to the decision of the Federal Court, not one word is said about the re-affiliation plan outlined by a majority of members of the I. T. U. Executive Council and representatives of the A. F. of L., and that portion of the constitution which was changed to meet new conditions such as exist in the I. T. U. and others, and which guarantees complete recognition of International Unions to define their jurisdiction, to govern their own membership and to be secure in their properties and funds—all of which is con-

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Trip to York's Sporting Camps At Kidney Pond One of Several Features of Convention Program

Trip Offers Splendid Opportunity to View Interesting Sights on Way to Mount Katahdin, Through Silver Lakes and Streams—Delegates Will Have Choice of Enjoying This Feature or Visit Largest Paper Mill in the World.

By LEONARD GAGNON

Millinocket, Me., May 10.—Delegates from the several local unions here who make up the Central Labor Union have found Mr. Busy as a swarm of bees lately, making preparations for accommodations and the entertainment of delegates from all over the State who will converge here for the 37th Annual Convention of the Maine State Federation of Labor on June 10th. Some of the locals in our sister town have sent delegates to our meetings, and all have been placed on committees.

Among the committees appointed by President Harold Jones are the following: Arrangements, W. Dean, O. Pound, C. McLaughlin, J. Wheeler and L. Gagnon; finance, W. Dean, C. McLaughlin, K. Harmon and W. Troisor; housing, J. Wheeler, J. Kelly, T. Hill and W. Fernald; publicity, W. Dean, H. Martell, P. Germley, M. Sprague, L. Gagnon; entertainment, O. Pound, J. Kelly, H. Martell and E. McDonald.

All of these committees have been busy for several weeks and they do not intend to leave anything undone that might prove a benefit for the convention delegates and featured speakers.

Permission has been received from the Adjutant-General for the use of the Armory, where general sessions of the convention will be held. The drill floor being about 60x80 feet, ample space is provided and no one will be crowded. There are smaller rooms in the building that can be used by committees without interfering with the main sessions, and as no street cars operate in the vicinity, outside noises will be down to a minimum.

The Armory, built only a couple of

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Portland CLU and Truck Drivers' Anniversary Banquet at Eastland Hotel May 3 Proved Big Success

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ident William Green of the American Federation of Labor.

FINE ENTERTAINMENT

The entertainment which preceded dancing, with music furnished by James McKenna and his Orchestra, and in which all participants were either members of local unions, or members of union families, brought liberal applause. The program opened with a song and dance selection by Miss Jean Russell, daughter of J. A. Russell of the Moving Picture Operators' Union; and Miss Louise Nelson, whose father is a member of the Moulders' Union; Miss Lela Gallant, whose father is a member of Electrical Workers' 333, did a very creditable singing and acrobatic dance number; two songs rendered by Miss Louise Ferrante, whose father is president of the Freight Handlers' Union, and Dick Finney, son of a member of the Railroad Car Workers, rendered a song and dance.

Patricia Noyes, who did a fine acrobatic number, is the daughter of a member of the Musicians' Union, while "Al" Russell brought to mind the old vaudeville days in his Hebrew comedian costume and singing "I Can Get It For You Wholesale"; Ballet Militaire, a number entitled "Wrap Your Dreams in the Red, White and Blue," was sung by Miss Russell, who, by her appearance, the quality of her voice, and her tap dancing ability, captivated her audience.

Noise-making, in which the audience joined in most enthusiastically, was the performance of the Highland Lake Woodchucks. Roland Gallant played the clarinet; Donald Dean, guitar; Alan McGann, washboard, and Neil Hillman, bass player.

NOTABLES PRESENT

Among those seated at the head table, besides the toastmaster and speaker, were Horace E. Howe, president of the C. L. U.; Raymond Conary, president of Local 340, and Mrs. Conary; Charles E. Fortin, of the Unemployment Compensation Board, and Mrs. Fortin; Mrs. David Hastings, representing the Women's Auxiliary to the C. L. U.; Bernard Wiesman, New England field agent for the Social Security Board; William Shannon, director of Wage-Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, and Mrs. Shannon; Laurent Roussin, secretary Sanford Textile Workers' 1802; Freeman M. Saltus, editor of The Labor News; Alonzo F. Young, organizer for the A. F. of L.; Attorney Leo J. Mahoney; A. F. Eagles, business agent, Electrical Workers; Edward Sylvester, former president, Portland C. L. U.; Frank J. Halloran, business agent, Boston Truck Drivers' 25; Carl Bergstrom, organizer for the Retail Clerks' International Union; Frank C. McDonald, former vice-president, Maine State Federation of Labor; Albert N. Tardif, president, Portland Typographical Local 66, and others.

There wasn't a dull moment from the time "Dave" Hastings rang the gong in opening the exercises until the clock struck midnight. The boys from Lawrence Teamsters' Local 477, who occupied an entire table, were particularly jovial over the advent of their secretary's (Ray Hill) birthday, and the singing of "Happy Birthday to You", started by members of Local 477, evolved into a chorus of more than 400 voices.

OUT-OF-TOWN DELEGATIONS

Lynn Truck Drivers' Local 42 was well represented, with the genial William A. Nealey (who knows how to pick 'em), business agent, very much on the job, as usual, as a merry-maker.

Boston Truck Drivers' Locals were represented by large delegations. These included Locals 259, 379, 380 and 661. Hartford Local 661 also had a delegation.

Among the selections played by the orchestra, which caught the audience in a happy mood, was "Jingle Bells". The singing was led by John J. Driscoll, organizer for the Wall Cutters and Butcher Workmen's International Union, who acquitted himself as an impressario of no little ability.

A radio, electric iron, punchbowl and other articles were given as attendance prizes, the recipients being vociferously applauded as they stepped up to the platform to receive their gifts.

It was a splendid affair, and much credit is due the following committee members: Chairmen David Hastings and John A. Russell, George Soldo and Hyman Erlick, Donald Irons, Rocco Germain, Martin Curran, Andrew Faulkner and Martin Campbell.

Death of R. E. Daggett Mourned by Hosts Unionists in Maine

The name of Robert E. Daggett during his two terms as president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, was one of the best known and respected in organized Labor circles throughout

THE LATE ROBERT E. DAGGETT

the State of Maine, and his death a few weeks ago is mourned by hosts of friends who recall his tireless activities on behalf of working people.

Mr. Daggett's two terms in office were marked with greatly increased membership. With Secretary Clarence R. Burgess and other members of the Executive Council, an organization campaign was vigorously pushed for nearly a year, and which resulted in organizing more than 20 textile and other local unions, most of whom became affiliated with the Federation.

Announcement of his death, which occurred at his home in Oakland, followed a long illness, during which he was unable to follow his trade union activities except for occasional attendance at meetings of the Waterville Carpenters' Union, with which he had been affiliated for many years.

Burial was in Waterville with full military honors conducted by the Spanish-American War Veterans, with which organization he had been connected since its inception.

In a communication to this newspaper in which she announced her husband's death, Mrs. Daggett, who during the State-wide organizing campaign was his constant companion, writes:

"As I walked back to our Auburn (automobile) after the funeral, and carrying the flag given me following the services, I thought of him as a good man, a true friend of Labor, a good soldier and a fine husband. He is gone, but remembrance of our life spent together for many years is helping me to carry on."

H. T. Emerson Given Purse on Retirement

E. T. Emerson, safety director for the Cumberland County Power and Light Company, was honored by various departments upon his retirement early this month. He was presented a billfold, and upon opening it, found four $50 bills as a token of the high esteem in which he was held by employes of the company and the management. Mr. Emerson will reside in Warren.

Settlement of

(Continued from Page 1)

57 cents to 65 cents; over-the-road drivers, over five-ton and under eight-ton, from 65 cents to 70 cents; over-the-road drivers, over eight-ton and all semi-trailers and ten-wheelers, also riggers and shoel trailer drivers, from 69 cents to 75 cents per hour.

This agreement will be in effect until April 1, 1943.

Cole's Express, Bangor; Mathews Bros., Belfast, and Sanborn's Express, Norway, all of which have never had an agreement with this union, are still at odds with their employes, who refuse to work without a signed contract.

Women Legislators Greatly Excited Over Defeat of Labor Bill Containing Joker That Destroyed Main Object

The closing day of the 90th Legislature was marked by lots of fireworks launched by women legislators, who blamed every Tom, Dick and Harry for defeat of the proposed 48-hour law for women and children, which by a vote of 74 to 60, with 13 reported as absent, was indefinitely postponed.

State Federation of Labor officials, the State Commissioner of Labor and numerous legislators were raked over the coals, being accused of failure to work for passage of the bill, notwithstanding the fact that a joker had been injected into the measure, which robbed it of its original purpose.

State Federation officials and the Commissioner of Labor maintained that after the joker had been injected—which was detected by Howard C. Woodside, a former legislative agent for the Federation—the bill was objectionable because it "removed the ceiling" for women whereby they would be called upon to work more than 48 hours a week on straight time.

The women Representatives, however, claimed women "knew what they wanted", and that the measure should at least have been given a two-year trial.

The task of bringing the exciting session to a climax was left to Representative Brown of Brunswick, who termed the bill "the nearest to being a tragedy of any bill put into this House with a supposed purpose of benefiting labor. There is concealed in it that which actually makes it poison to its supposed beneficiaries."

He went on to say that reducing the hours to 48 per week was a step in the right direction. "This bill, however, is no such step. It is a kick. A kick aimed right at female labor. Worse still, a kick aimed at unorganized labor."

He said he didn't think the bill's proponents knew what they were doing, that it was "taking the lid right off."

"We read about the limit of 48 hours in one week and then comes the joker —if one can be so hard-hearted as to call it a joker. It tells us that the limit is 48 hours—unless such employes receive compensation for any employment in excess of 48 hours at a rate not less than the average hourly rate. Do you get that? Work 48 hours and then as many more as desired but at a lower rate than for the first 48! That's the rawest, crudest deal that I have run up against in a long, long time. I call this bill a throwback to the dark ages. It will be a direct cause for a very low wage scale. To get a living, one will be compelled to work long hours at small pay. . . . Can we assimilate such propaganda as women just begging to work 60 or 70 hours a week? The women (if this passes) will not be begging to work longer hours—they will be held to and will have to—or else. Are we going to sell them down the river?"

Portland Central Labor Union Strongly Objects to Vinson 'Cooling' Bill

At the meeting of Portland Central Labor Union held in Electrical Workers' Hall, 236 Federal street, last Wednesday evening, delegates voted unanimously to oppose the vicious anti-Labor Vinson Bill, and Secretary David Hastings was instructed to notify U. S. Senators Ralph O. Brewster and Wallace White, Jr., and Representatives James C. Oliver, Frank Fellows and Margaret Chase of the Central body's action and urge them to oppose the bill in Congress.

The Vinson bill would destroy the fundamental principles of organized Labor, in denying it the right to strike, and would only add confusion to present world conditions, it was contended by delegates who participated in the discussion.

"We in America remember what happened in Germany and Italy when the rights of those who labor were taken away and totalitarianism was substituted in place of democracy, democracy and human rights. American workers believe in the Constitution and Labor's rights are part of that sacred document," members of Maine's contingent in Congress were told.

Local unions which took similar action during the past few weeks are Electrical Workers' Local 333, Building and Construction Trades Council and other local organizations.

President Horace E. Howe was elected to represent the C. L. U. at the annual convention of the State Federation of Labor, to be held in Millinocket June 10-14.

Organizer Young Speaks to Workers at Sanford and Limerick

Alonzo F. Young, general organizer for the A. F. of L., now connected with the Boston office, spoke to employes of the Goodall Mills at Sanford on Sunday evening, April 27th, following an address to workers at the Limerick Mills at Limerick in the afternoon.

Several hundred workers attended the meetings and showed a strong desire to be represented in collective bargaining by the Federation of Woolen and Worsted Workers' Union, A. F. of L.

In his remarks, Mr. Young enthusiastically endorsed the efforts of James E. Carlen, general organizer for the Federation, in which he has been eminently successful in convincing textile workers as to their future interests by becoming affiliated with the A. F. of L. union.

Musicians' Delegates Leave June First for National Convention

Wendell Doherty and Earle Hanson will leave June 1st to represent Portland Musicians' Local 364 at the annual convention of the American Federation of Musicians, during the week of June 9 at Seattle, Wash.

Mr. Doherty will be attending his fifth consecutive convention, having attended the Indianapolis, Kansas City, Tampa and Louisville meetings. Mr. Hanson will be attending his first national convention, and is a member of Local 364's executive board, while Mr. Doherty is secretary-treasurer.

It is predicted the convention will be the largest in the history of the organization, as the membership has increased tremendously during the past year.

Portland Unions Buy Defense Bonds

Among the early purchasers of Defense Bonds are Dirigo Lodge 1256 of the International Association of Machinists, Local 237, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America.

Representatives of the unions say that besides being a patriotic duty, they consider the purchase of the bonds as an investment backed by the U. S. Government, and plan to continue buying bonds throughout the emergency.

Many more unions in Portland are planning to take similar action when their meetings are held.

Electrical Workers' 333 to Celebrate 25th Anniversary

Members of Electrical Workers' Local 333 will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the union on Saturday, July 12, with a banquet to be held at the Columbia Hotel. Following the banquet, at which several members on the pension roll will be honored guests, entertainment and dancing will continue until midnight.

Among out-of-town guests invited are International President Edward A. Brown and Vice-President John J. Reagan, William Steinmiller and Walter Mannefick, International representatives.

Arrangements are in charge of a special committee, consisting of Vice-President Frank Lynch, Morris Blumenthal and Horace E. Howe. The local union has a membership of 250.

Portland Machinists Conduct Vigorous Membership Drive

Plans have been formulated by Machinists' Local 1256 to completely organize the industry in Portland. Grand Lodge Organizer Fred Federholm will supervise the campaign, which comes as the result of many inquiries from employes engaged in machine and production trades relative to membership in the Union.

At present, Local 1256 has contracts with the Thomas Laughlin Company and the Maine Steel Company. Open meetings are part of the plan to explain the advantages of membership to those engaged in machine operation.

Martin J. Campbell is secretary of Local 1256, and resides at 81 Woodfords street.

Garment Wkrs. Local Hold Enjoyable Social at Union Headquarters

Members of Portland Local of the United Garment Workers' Union held a very enjoyable social evening last night, in their hall at 236 Federal St. Luncheon was served and games were enjoyed. Arrangements were in charge of Mary Dunn, Hannah Merithew, Mary O'Brien and Maud Carr.

Among invited guests were Nathan Sidd of Boston, general organizer; Secretary and Mrs. David Hastings of the Central Labor Union; Mr. and Mrs. John B. Kitchen, Hyman Erlick, vice-president of the C. L. U.; President and Mrs. Anthony DiPhilipo, of the Barbers' Union; Horace E. Howe, vice-president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, and Michael Dunn.

Mr. Kitchen was very active in assisting the local union's membership campaign when he was connected with the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Building Construction Laborers Open New Office at 43 India St.

Local 12 of the Hod Carriers and Building Construction Laborers' International Union, has opened an office at 43 India street, with Business Manager Nick Albano, who has been appointed a full-time official, in charge of the office staff.

Local 12 was organized over 20 years ago, and at the present time plans are being arranged for combining Locals 8 and 12. The membership of both organizations has increased over 50 per cent during the past year, and recently closed new contracts were signed calling for a 10-cent hourly wage increase, bringing the minimum up to 60 cents an hour for common laborers.

Local 12 is affiliated with the Central Labor Union and the Building and Construction Trades Council. Frank Fagone is president.

Goodall Workers Join AFL Textile Union

Marked progress has been reported by the Chairman of Woolen and Worsted Workers' Union, A. F. of L., in its organizing campaign at Sanford. Organizer James E. Carlen is directing the drive and to date a substantial number of employes of the Goodall Worsted Company have identified themselves with the union. The Goodall products are sold all over the world and the famous Palm Beach fabric had its origin there.

Assisting Mr. Carlen are Horace E. Howe, vice-president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, and a committee from Sanford Local 1802, headed by President Edward Ambrose, Laurent Roussin and Ernest Eaton.

Portland Typos Elect Verrill as Stcretary for 20th Consecutive Term

Carl C. Verrill was re-elected secretary of Portland Typographical Union No. 66 for the 20th consecutive year at the annual meeting of the union, held on Sunday, April 20th.

Albert N. Tardif succeeds Francis S. Morton as president. Mr. Morton was not a candidate for re-election. Francis L. Boyle was elected vice-president; Harold S. Libbey, treasurer; William C. Crocker was re-elected sergeant-at-arms.

Members of the Executive Committee and the years of service in their offices are: John E. Ham, fourth year; Charles F. Libby, second year; Harold S. Libbey, third year; John W. Nugent, seventh year. Elected at the meeting were Judson D. Nichols, fifth year; Joseph P. Severino, fifth year; Sidney H. Schwartz, starting his first term in this office.

President Tardif announced that committees for the coming year would be appointed at the May meeting, and plans are also being made for a banquet to be held during this month.

Airport Contractors Guests at Banquet of Bangor Carpenters

Bangor Local 621 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, had as guests at their banquet held in the Rosaland Ballroom on May 1st, Messrs. T. D. Cunninghan, D. A. Sullivan and C. D. Cunningham, contractors at the air base construction project on which many members of the local union are employed. Also seated at the table were the superintendents and a goodly number of foremen employed by the contractors.

Serving at the banquet and as sponsors of the entertainment progrmp, were members of the Women's Auxiliary to Norman N. Dow Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, who not only rendered good service at the banquet, but acquitted themselves most creditably as entertainers. More than 250 attended the festivities.

Members of the committee of arrangements included the following officers of Local 621: John J. Mosher, president; Harry W. Pattee, business agent; Fred Russell, treasurer; Arthur Nason, financial secretary, and John H. Ambrose, recording secretary.

Portland Motion Pic. Operators Get "Top" Wages at Resorts

Increased wages recently agreed upon by Portland Moving Picture Operators' Local and proprietors of theatres at nearby summer resorts, including Old Orchard, Wells and Ogunquit, call for top wages, or equal to operators employed in Portland theatres.

An agreement was also consummated which includes Woodford's Community House.

It was also announced the union had completed an agreement with the Civic Theatre in Portland during the month which establishes the operating force with four motion picture machine operators and five stage hands.

Much credit is given officials of Local 314 and 248 for present conditions in the local theatrical industry, which compare very favorably with any city of its size in the international union's jurisdiction.

For Other Portland Local Union News See Page 7

State Federation's Sec'y Makes Comparison Showing Insidious Propaganda at Work Against Labor

Discusses Recent NAM Conference, When President Fuller, Head of Nation's Greatest Propaganda Machine, Made Startling Statement in Effort to Maintain Low-Wage Standards During Time of Soaring Profits.

By CHARLES O. DUNTON, Secretary, Maine State Federation of Labor.

Were it not for the grim consequences which might result from it, the recent statement of Walter D. Fuller, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, would appeal to our sense of humor.

At a recent Regional Conference of the National Association of Manufacturers, Mr. Fuller expressed concern about propagandizing ourselves into believing that strikes in defense industries do not amount to much, and invites national tragedy."

Mr. Fuller stated, "America needs to be shocked. America needs to be brought up short against the stark realism of what is going on about us. Efforts are being made to stabilize prices of manufactured products while wages apparently are being allowed to increase regardless."

Now, in the first place, Mr. Fuller is also president of the Curtis Publishing Company, probably the greatest agency for propaganda in the United States, the company publishing the Saturday Evening Post, the Country Gentleman and the Ladies' Home Journal.

The Saturday Evening Post prints the articles by Westbrook Pegler and other labor-baiting articles and it is my prediction that we will be reading more and more-of these venomous articles in these magazines very soon.

America knows what is going on about it and within its borders. We maintain a higher standard of living than any foreign country, yet hundreds of families are forced to subsist, either on charity or on starvation incomes.

Wages are being allowed to increase, not "regardless", but because the labor cost per unit of production is kept low by increased efficiency and production.

That "these forces will reduce profits" is also not in accordance with facts. The United States Department of Commerce statistics indicate that profits in 1940 (after taxes) were $4,900,000,000, compared to $3,900,000,000 in 1939—an increase of 25 per cent.

During 1940, wages per hour increased an average of five per cent, but the employer's labor cost per unit of production did not rise. Production per man-hour rose almost five per cent.

We will watch Mr. Fuller's blurbs in his magazines, which perhaps he does not consider as propaganda.

Not At Home!

Cunner fishing
Now and then
Is, interesting,
Especially when
The sun is high,
The wind's to lee
And screeching gulls
Swing lazily.
For such we've been
All winter wishing,
We're not at home,
We're Cunner fishing.

—JOHN J. McLEOD,
Local 333, I. B. E. W.

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STAYS SILENT LASTS LONGER
because it has NO MOVING PARTS in its freezing system
MORE and more people who've had experience with other makes are changing to Servel Electrolux. They know it alone can assure them of permanent silence, constant low operating cost, freedom from wear. Whether you're replacing your present automatic refrigerator, or buying your first . . . choose Servel!
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1st—$400* in U. S. Defense Bonds
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Fully guaranteed.
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None sold without this Adv.—Be sure to bring this in with you.
FREE FREE
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Complete with standard with every purchase of $29.50 or over.
27 YEARS OF PROGRESS
THE HUB FURNITURE COMPANY
PORTLAND, MAINE

VERMONT FEDERATION OFFICIALS GREATLY PLEASED OVER THIS YEAR'S LEGISLATIVE RESULTS

"This year's Legislative results were the most productive in the history of the Vermont Federation of Labor," writes Secretary-Treasurer and Legislative Agent Robert Sinclair, in summarizing activities of the Federation and taking occasion to extend thanks to all agencies who assisted in making the Federation's efforts successful.

Principal among those who cooperated and largely responsible for this year's achievements in securing important amendments to the Unemployment Compensation Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act, Mr. Sinclair says, were a goodly number of friendly members of the Legislature, the Vermont Farm Bureau, the Committee on Labor representing both branches of the Legislature, representatives of Central bodies and local unions, who attended hearings and personally contacted their Senators and Representatives, and the excellent cooperation rendered by The Labor News.

"While not having secured all that officials of the Federation desired," Mr. Sinclair says, "we are gratified in having had reduced the waiting period in the Unemployment Compensation Act from three weeks to two weeks, and extending the benefit period to fifteen weeks; establishing a maximum of $15.00 and a minimum of $5.00 a week; extending to 15 days the appeal period from six days, and several other changes.

"We are also pleased over the benefits to be derived by Vermont workers through important changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act. These include increased benefits, certain amounts for hospitalization and surgical cases, improvements in health and sanitation conditions, now under the jurisdiction of this department."

Conn. Federation's Executive Council Protests Enactment of Vinson's Cooling-off Measure

The Executive Council of the Connecticut Federation of Labor, at its last meeting, went on record as diametrically opposed to the Vinson 25-day "cooling off" bill, and so notified U. S. Senators and Representatives, urging them to vote against the bill when it comes up for final action.

Connecticut Members of Congress were reminded that the American Federation of Labor, its Building and Construction, Metal Trades and other departments have pledged loyalty to the government in carrying out its defense program, and that under no conditions will strikes be sanctioned against concerns engaged in defense work before all possible means have been taken to bring about adjustment of grievances.

Attention is also called to the comparatively small number of strikes engaged in by A. F. of L. unions, and the exceptionally short time consumed in adjusting these. It is contended by the organization that existing laws, if properly enforced, and the good offices of the National Mediation Board, offer all needed machinery to settle strikes without the enactment of further legislation.

NOT SATISFIED WITH LABOR RELATIONS ACT

Although passage of the State Labor Relations Act, which was classed as one of the Federation's major bills in this year's legislative program, has been accepted, it is regarded as far from satisfactory in its present emasculated form, according to John J. Egan, secretary-treasurer and legislative agent, who this morning explained a number of changes contained in the measure which make it of comparatively little benefit in carrying out provisions of the Federal Act.

"However," Mr. Egan told a Labor News representative, "we were made a start in the right direction, and like former experiences in the adoption of Labor measures which were far from satisfactory, we have been successful in having secured amendments which eventually made laws workable in our behalf."

Among these he referred to Workmen's Compensation, Social Security (as this applies to Unemployment Insurance and Old Age Pensions), reduction of working hours for women and children and for workers in public institutions, anti-injunction and other legislation which took time to convince a majority of legislators as regards their importance to working people.

One difficulty encountered at this year's session of the Legislature is the time and thought devoted by members of both houses to "jobs". "It is most unfortunate," Mr. Egan said, "that many members permitted themselves to believe stories as Gospel truth concerning the slowing up of production, notwithstanding the fact that President Roosevelt, William S. Knudsen, director of OPM, Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Knox, and other high officials have repeatedly said that production of war materials thus far has been way beyond expectations; that every possible means are taken to facilitate matters for still greater production, and that by all means they are opposed to the enactment of any law that would take from workers their inalienable right to strike."

New England Workers Benefited to Tune of $115,000 in Back-Pay

Back wages and overtime compensation to the amount of over $115,000 was effected to the benefit of some 2,000 workers during April, through enforcement of the Wage-Hour law in all New England States, except Connecticut. A statement to this effect was issued by Director Robert P. Dolan. The record also showed that 12,000 employes had received $935,000 in back-pay restitutions since January 1.

These restitutions comprised the difference between the actual wages paid by employers and the minimum wages as set by statute.

A. F. L. Textile Union Wins Election, 61 to 5, at Jagger Mill

Workers in another Maine textile mill have become affiliated with the A. F. of L. Textile Workers' Union, and at an election held at the Jagger Bros. mill in South Sanford last week, the union was designated as the sole bargaining agency for all employes.

The election was under the supervision of Louis R. Becker of Boston, field representative for the National Labor Relations Board; Miss Josephine A. Jagger, representing the company, and James E. Carles, organizer for the Woolen and Worsted Workers Federation, representing the union.

Paul Berard, vice-president of Sanford Local 1802, will be in charge of the Jagger Mills unit and Miss Mary Allen will act in the capacity of secretary at meetings. It is expected the union will enter into collective bargaining with the company in the near future.

It was announced on May 1st that the Sanford mills had increased wages of all its employes 10 per cent, effective May 12.

NO DATE SET FOR N. E. CONFERENCE OF TRADE UNIONS

Inquiry made of Miss Rose Sullivan, who is in charge of A. F. of L. headquarters in Boston during the absence of New England Representative John J. Murphy, who is in charge of organizing activities at the Ford plants in Detroit, disclosed that no date had as yet been set for the third annual New England Conference of Trade Unions. Last year's conference was held in Hartford in June.

Miss Sullivan told the writer last Wednesday that the date and place might not be decided for several weeks or until after the National Labor Relations Board election is held at the Ford plants, which is scheduled to take place at any moment. After the vote is completed, Mr. Murphy is expected to return to Boston, when it is thought both the date and place for the conference will be decided upon.

As the Portland Central Labor Union has decided to relinquish its claim for the conference in favor of Providence, it is expected the latter city will be chosen as the location for this year's conference.

Concord Granite Cutters Sign New Pact With Employers

Concord Branch, Granite Cutters' International Association, has signed a new agreement with local employers covering the period from April 1, 1941 to April 1, 1942. The new pact provides for a full Saturday holiday, with double time to be paid for all work performed on that day, and other minor adjustments in working conditions.

According to Daniel Heartquist, secretary of the Concord branch, the outlook for Labor legislation this year is not very favorable. He says, "We expected some good results this year because of promises made by political candidates during the last campaign. It was only natural that we should expect them, but if no more is shown in the next few weeks than has been demonstrated in the past, this session of the Legislature will prove another disappointment."

"We expect that at least there would be something done in the way of providing for occupational diseases under the Workmen's Compensation Act, but with the sessions ready to adjourn about May first, it seems that we are doomed to disappointment.

"I wonder what the next election promises will bring?" ponders Mr Heartquist in closing his communication to The New Hampshire Labor News.

AFL President to Speak at 75th Anniversary of University of N. H.

The committee in charge of arrangements for the 75th anniversary celebration of the founding of the University of New Hampshire, announced during the week that William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, will be a featured speaker on June 21st.

This will be Mr. Green's first visit to New Hampshire as an official of the A. F. of L. and he will be heard on a program designed to survey New Hampshire's human resources.

The New Hampshire State Federation of Labor is cooperating with the University in its anniversary program.

Loyalty to President Imperative In Present Battle for Preservation Of Freedom; Disunity Dangerous

By ALBERT N. TARDIF

Business is good. Employment is up. Unemployment may vanish completely before another year. It's a pretty picture to visualize. But if we think it through, our excitement soon fades into a mixture of glum and wonderment. We ask ourselves: "Why is it that only war on a large scale can bring such prosperity to a people?"

Men and women who had sought in vain for work during the 1930's now find employers bidding for their services. Meanwhile, the flower of our youth is being conscripted. Plants that were idle a year ago are humming 24 hours a day now. But they are turning out implements of war. The man who gets a job today may see his son leave for a training camp tomorrow. That's war.

Business is rapidly shooting upward and will soon reach the highest point in America's history. But the Nation is facing an unprecedented peril! The government of the people, by the people and for the people, is threatened both from within and from without. There is widespread confusion. The appeasers are trying to plant seeds of doubt in our minds. They claim that our present foreign policy is endangering America's safety.

Labor unions must beware. It is so easy to become involved in these confusing controversies. Not everyone is qualified to pass judgment on matters of foreign policy.

Last year we held an election. Each of us was free to go to the polls and vote for the man of his choice. We elected Franklin D. Roosevelt by an overwhelming majority. He will be our leader for the next four years. In times of crisis we preferred an experienced leader.

The crisis is now growing worse. The national welfare dictates that we close our minds to those who would turn us away from our chosen leader. Disunity now is dangerous. Continued loyalty to our chief is imperative in this battle for the preservation of man's freedom.

Maine and New Hampshire Two of 10 States Where There Are No Laws Permitting Local Housing Authorities

Washington, D. C., Apr. 10. — The number of local housing authorities over the nation has now reached 577 and is continuing to rise, according to the United States Housing Authority. When USHA began to operate late in 1937, there were only 46 such authorities in the country. The increase has been especially marked in the recent months, due to expansion of the USHA rural housing program.

"The experience and cooperative spirit shown by local housing authorities the country over is of the utmost value to the nation at the present time in the construction of defense housing projects," according to Nathan Straus, USHA administrator, who said:

"Local authorities have recently been given enlarged responsibility in their task of constructing defense housing and the wisdom of this action has already been shown in many instances."

In most cases, the housing authorities are made up of five members. All authority members serve without pay. The members are business and professional men, representatives of labor, local officials, and, frequently, women are included.

The only States that do not have laws permitting the establishment of local housing authorities are: Iowa, Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. Housing legislation is now pending before the legislatures in many of these States.

Because of limited funds available to USHA not all of the housing authorities established have yet been able to obtain loans for low-rent slum-clearance projects. Recently, however, USHA earmarked funds for 52 cities which previously have not had public low-rent housing projects.

Taylor Critizes Cambridge Draft Board's Ruling That Men Who Strike Will Lose Occupational Deferment

Passage by the Cambridge draft board Monday of a resolution declaring that men given occupational deferment going on strike would lose such deferment, resulted in a protest from Kenneth I. Taylor, secretary-treasurer of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, who said the action of the Cambridge board was designed to intimidate the workingman before he exercises one of his greatest privileges—the right to strike."

Mr. Taylor said the policy was "coercive, designed to intimidate workers before they took advantage of their constitutional right to strike—a right the country is supposed to be preparing to defend."

Although the narrowness of the Cambridge board's ruling is remarkable, fortunately there is an appeals board, before which any worker may appear. It is my opinion that the Cambridge policy will be found in no other draft board in the country, and will not be upheld by the district appeal board. The board has no authority to 'railroad' a man who chooses to exercise his legal right to strike."

Continuing, Mr. Taylor said: "This is substantially what we might expect to find in Germany. That board in effect tells the worker, don't you dare strike, or else you go on. It's pretty close to Hitler's philosophy.

"That board is telling its workers that if they wish to be deferred through occupational skill they must forego one of their greatest constitutional rights and subject themselves to industrial slavery.

"The Cambridge board may have acted unwittingly. It will probably correct its attitude. Its policy is the most dangerous development in connection with our Selective Service method of calling up trainees."

Former Paper Makers' Head is Hillman Aide

Appointment of Matthew J. Burns, Albany, N. Y., as labor consultant in the Labor Division of the Office of Production Management, has been announced by Sidney Hillman, associate OPM director. Burns, formerly president of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers, A. F. of L. affiliate, will devote his time to finding ways of maintaining continuity of employment in factories and shops affected by the establishment of mandatory priorities.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE LABOR NEWS! HAS IT EXPIRED? LOOK UP YOUR LAST RECEIPT; THAT TELLS THE STORY!

Deny That Gantner Products Are Fair to Garment Workers

Officials of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union deny a recent statement that the Gantner & Mattern Co., makers of swimming suits and other sportswear, has settled its strike of employes, and that its products have been removed from the union's "We Don't Patronize" list.

The union announces in a communication to Central Labor Unions that the strike is still in effect and that the plant is picketed by members of the local union.

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New England Council President Would Have United States and Great Britain Declare Post-War Aims

What are the post-war aims and general policies of Great Britain and the United States? That was the question put forth by Ralph E. Flanders, president of the New England Council, in a recent address in Providence, before a large group of business leaders of the six New England states. Upon that subject there has been increasing discussion and general interest, within and without legislative circles.

Mr. Flanders declared that this country was faced with more than a question of the physical defense of the United States. "The future of generations yet to be born is now involved," said the speaker. "All the nation's human groups and business activities are nearing the point of sacrifice. What is this sacrifice being asked for?"

After recalling some of the quickly forgotten lessons of the first World War, Mr. Flanders said the problems of a sudden and complete transition from a wartime footing to a peacetime economy had its own lessons of the past. He was critical of England for having gotten into the first World War, and for having failed to learn the lessons which circumstance should have conveyed.

Declaring that this country must now be realistic about the post war issues of the present European struggle, he said, "We have learned that the nations of the earth will not co-operate on an ideal basis." In this conclusion the thinking public will heartily concur. There is now no talk of sinking our navy, as we were cajoled into doing in 1921. The present demand is for ships, the bridge of hope for beleaguered Great Britain.

Presidents of State Federations in New England Named Chairmen of Committees to Aid British Labor

With the acceptance of B. J. Dorsky of Maine, John L. Barry of New Hampshire, Carmi G. Comings of Vermont, Nicholas P. Morrissey of Massachusetts, William L. Connolly of Rhode Island, and James J. Clerkin of Connecticut, presidents of their various State Federations of Labor in New England, as chairmen of their respective States in the campaign of the American Labor Committee to Aid British Labor, the drive is progressing wonderfully. The presidents of the State Federations in New England, as well as chairmen of their respective States, are also acting as a Regional Advisory Council.

The American Labor Committee to Aid British Labor, of which William Green is honorary chairman, and Matthew Woll chairman, plans through the various State Federations, Central Labor Unions and affiliated organizations an "all-out" for British Labor. Each delegate to his Central body will receive detailed information regarding the aims of the Committee, which they will carry back to their own local to act upon.

Labor in America can in various ways assist our brother workers in Britain, who are fighting for their independence, their very existence, so that the democratic way of life will prevail throughout the world, rather than the rule of dictatorship. Labor in America is well aware of the fact that only under democratic institutions can free labor exist, and therefore is more than willing to give aid in the form of funds, blankets, clothing and other material to help the war-stricken democracies.

The Committee plans to ship whatever it collects to the British Trades Union Congress through the British War Relief Society. The British Unions will distribute and administer the contributions.

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Official Newspaper of the
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Published Monthly by
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Under Supervision of Leo J. Ashey and E. J. Dorsky.

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MAY, 1941

Pegler and The Pulitzer Prize

The Pulitzer prizes for excellence in American journalism and letters have been awarded once again, and among the names of recipients is that of Westbrook Pegler, newspaper columnist and chief venom-spiller for the Scripps-Howard syndicate, for "a distinguished example of a reporter's work".

While there may be some merit in the citation, as it pertains to Pegler's articles in exposure of the scandal which ultimately led to the conviction of George Scalise on grand larceny charges, as this particular case deserved cleaning up—even at the expense of unfavorable publicity.

But Labor in no way endorses or condones the scurrilous attacks which Pegler has made upon the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor in general, and President Green in particular, regarding these as but the mouthings of a hireling doing the bidding of his master—in this case Roy Howard, head of the newspaper chain.

Organized workers realize that there are some crooks in the Labor movement just as there are in all other walks of life, and the A. F. of L. has gone on record demanding that these be purged from the ranks. An example of this is the recent suspension of a New Jersey union because it refused to unseat a president who has a criminal record.

But Pegler, in his articles, has over-stepped all bounds of respectable newspaper reporting in his seemingly intense and even fanatical aim to convince the reading public that ALL unions are rackets and ALL labor leaders are racketeers and crooks.

Our hope is that he will not consider the Pulitzer award a "Go Ahead" signal in his vicious campaign of slurs and slander against men who have devoted their lives to the cause of Labor and the bettering of conditions for their fellow-men.

It Takes Two to Cooperate!

While we do not always agree with Sidney Hillman's philosophy of the trade union movement, and blame him for having been one of the prime movers in causing the present disunity in organized Labor, we cannot help but coincide with his views as expressed before the House Military Affairs Committee, when he emphasized the fact that "it takes two to cooperate".

That which Mr. Hillman was desirous of bringing to the attention of the committee was that much of the trouble brought about in defense strikes is the fact that management refuses to cooperate by discussing workers' demands around the conference table. Instead, management assumes an air of arrogance in refusing to talk over matters, and while it is well known in some cases, at least, to have resulted in long and costly strikes.

As a result, employers find themselves in the predicament of being compelled to deal with the CIO, which organization they claim is dominated by Communists, and for which they have only themselves to blame.

For many years the A. F. of L. repeatedly knocked at their doors, only to be turned away, and employers used all available foul means to fight their workers if they attempted to secure redress through strikes. This occurred even after legislation had been enacted to settle grievances through the National Labor Relations Board, when employers resorted to the courts in the hope they could escape from dealing with representatives of their employes.

Through its methods of organizing a comparatively small number of workers in a given shop, and using unheard-of tactics in coercing non-members to join in their strikes, the CIO has accomplished that which in the past was deemed impossible.

It will be remembered how employers poohpoohed the idea that Communism would ever be able to secure a strong foothold in this country. This newspaper repeatedly called attention to this indifference on the part of employers, who are now coming to realize they were "barking up the wrong tree".

It may be that Communism, as a party, has not as yet developed into large numbers; but it is a fact that from this great mass of workers whom they have been able to organize, they are securing what they have been looking forward to for many years, namely, followers.

The writer is reminded of a recent statement by an official of an A. F. of L. union, who, although not a radical, became greatly interested in the methods used in organizing campaigns by the Communists. "I don't care a tinker's dam," he said, "whether leaders in this organizing drive are Communists, Socialists, I. W. W. or fellow-travelers, just so long as something is accomplished that will prove beneficial to the workers."

Recent utterances by this same young man convinced the writer that he has become a full-fledged Communist in thought and action, and that they have been successful in converting many other young men and women to their cause.

It is safe to state that agitation for strike-curbing legislation, through which employers hope to "run their business as they please, without interference on the part of national and state laws," will not be enacted. Instead, all apparent indications are they will be compelled to settle their difficulties with their employes through third parties. Whether this will be through conciliators for the U. S. Department of Labor, or by collective bargaining methods of the National Labor Relations Board, is of course problematical.

But, as Hillman intimated in his testimony, unions are willing to cooperate in speeding up defense work, but "it takes two to cooperate", and by this he meant that employers must be the party of the second part in order to assure uninterrupted production.

Return to Sanity

There are signs that the manufactured furore over strikes in defense industries is dying down, for which the nation should be thankful. The shouting and the tumult has shown a lack of national poise and it is good that hysteria is going and sanity returning.

Denunciation of strikes was carried to such an absurdity that it was bound to bring a reaction toward sensible thinking. Labor helped greatly in bringing this about, by pointing out the relative unimportance of strikes in the defense picture and was aided by high Government officials, who presented the true facts of the situation and counseled calmness. When a man such as Secretary of the Navy Knox, surely never suspected of being a "labor agitator", defends labor's right to strike and emphasizes the dangers of restrictive labor legislation, it is time for even the most rabid union-hater to curb his tongue and stick at least approximately to the truth.

Strikes are not wanted in defense industries and responsible leadership and membership know this as well as anyone. But because there have been some strikes, is no reason for abandoning American principles in panic and calling loudly for legislation that would delight a Hitler or a Stalin.

The nation is seeing this, after some weeks of being unduly influenced by alarmist talk, which undoubtedly was enthusiastically backed by every enemy of labor in the country.

No Freezing of Wages!

The unsound notion that wages should be "frozen" and should not advance with expanding production and profits is given a well deserved wallop by the American Federation of Labor in the American Federationist for May.

The Federation makes it clear that it is labor's position that proposals for the freezing of wages are grossly unfair. In an article entitled "Should Wages Be Frozen", the Federation discusses the question and answers it with an emphatic "No!"

"An adequate living for every American citizen is our country's obligation—and its opportunity," the Federation says. "Therefore, labor asks that this be our national policy: No freezing of wages, but progressive wage increases according to each company's ability to pay, as determined by collective bargaining based on facts."

Admitting that there is danger of fast-rising prices and living costs in the defense boom, the Federation points out that "the danger is not in wage increases."

"Wages are an important cost, we agree," it is declared. "They actually make up 16 cents on the dollar! But let us not magnify the 16 cents and forget the 84 cents."

The A. F. of L. position on the subject is summarized as follows:

"Freezing wages—stopping all wage increases—to prevent runaway prices is not necessary. Such action would be grossly unfair to workers, whose chances for improvement would be stopped while employers continue to make high profits."

Fight Must Go On

State labor departments have recently directed attention to the need for continuing the fight on industrial homework, which apparently is growing, despite the long war against it. That the battle is not won is emphasized by surveys showing that 30 states still have no homework laws.

U. S. Department of Labor investigations have shown that home-workers making complete artificial flowers earn as low as 6 cents an hour. Parts makers in the same trade earn as little as 3 cents an hour. Children who sew buttons on cards average 8 cents an hour; a quick woman putting dots on veils can sometimes make 14 cents in the same time.

There are several things to be done before we can point with too much pride to our achievements.

This Is An Age of Young Men

Refusal on the part of the President to reappoint Brig. Gen. Hugh S. Johnson to the U. S. Army Reserve Corps, because he "did not anticipate the General would enter active service", opens up a subject which is causing much diversified discussion.

Among numerous comments over Johnson's present predicament, which relegates him to the status of a private citizen only, and affords him an opportunity to continue his campaign of villification against the President, one is to the effect that the incident opens new opportunities for younger men who, in the future, will be chosen to do the heavy thinking and acting which for so many years were borne by men who had reached the period of retirement.

Not only is this so in war matters but in business, finance and other lines, when it has come to pass that for obtaining quick, efficient and constructive results youth—with its physical strength, vigor and go-getting qualities—has it all over men of middle age and beyond.

By no means is this written in disparagement of the many able men of the so-called middle age period of life, as some of the most noted generals, admirals and business executives, notwithstanding their advanced ages, are still doing a pretty good job; but as the result of many years of grinding activities, not only does one gradually weaken from the aspect of physical strength, but finds himself more or less baffled when called upon to exercise his mental faculties.

And so it is in the Labor movement. Older men who for many years have been depended upon to do the heavy work and thinking for their local unions, Central bodies, Building Trades Councils and State Federations, and also international unions, realize they have done their share. They are tired, both physically and mentally. Any extra work assigned to them—whether it be organizing, settling grievances, or committee work—becomes burdensome. While not having reached that period in life when they wish to join the "rocking-chair brigade", they seek relief from duties to which they are richly entitled.

An incident which occurred at a recent meeting of a Central Labor Union, at which was being discussed the very important question of adopting means of attracting young men to meetings, one of the old-timers present remarked that he "wasn't himself" because of being deprived of his hour's after-supper rest in order to get to the meeting on time. Another complained about his "bum feet", while still another stated that staying out late at night affected his sleep and interfered with his job on the following day.

If the Government, the big corporations, Wall Street bankers and speculators are more than ever depending on younger men to run things, this also should apply to the Labor movement. Not only quick, militant and intelligent action is needed for the future success of the Labor movement, but willingness on the part of all young men to take hold and demonstrate what they can do.

The Labor movement offers great opportunities for young men who possess ability, determination and willingness to be of service. It has been the writer's pleasure to note the wonderful progress made by young men of his acquaintance who, during the past 40 years have made good as executives of national and international unions, as national organizers, financial adjusters, officials of State Federations, and in other important positions.

And what a vocation—that of devoting one's life for the betterment of mankind. For that is just what it means when one devotes either part or his entire time to the cause of trade unionism.

What Next?

A big wind turbine, designed to test use of mountain winds as a means of producing commercial electric power, is nearing completion in Vermont. Two huge blades will be used on a 110-foot steel tower atop Grandpa's Knob, a prominent peak in the Green Mountains. The turbine is said to be the only one of its size and kind in the United States, and is expected to be ready for trial about June 1st.

"The American labor movement, with all its shortcomings and imperfections, is the keystone of democracy in our national life. I am proud to be in its service."—William Green.

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MADISON

History of Co-operatives From Their Beginning in Scotland in 1769 and Enormous Growth Throughout World

By JOSEPH MURRAY, Member of Madison Local 17

There has been some talk in the past few months in Washington, of stabilizing wages. Naturally, that is the last thing the workers wish to see. If anything is to be stabilized, it should be commodities. If wages were stabilized, the employer would gain excess profits which, in all fairness, the employe should enjoy. But if all commodities were stabilized, only the monopolies and producing price-setting groups would be affected.

If the factories of these United States are to be kept open and operating in the future, we must find ways to increase our buying power, and we can not do it if wages are stabilized.

I believe one solution for our problem is Cooperatives. In the United States we have more than 5000 associations operating retail stores, and more than 1000 are rendering a variety of services including housing, bakeries, restaurants, medical care, insurance, telephone service and electric service. Volumes could be written on Cooperatives, but lacking space, I will give a brief summary of the history of the origin of this service.

FIRST COOPERATIVE IN 1769

The first Cooperative of which there is a record—was the Fenwick Society of Scotland, founded in 1769. This society practiced a number of the principles of present-day consumer cooperation and inaugurated the principle of eliminating the middleman.

Then, in the 1800's, a cooperative store was organized in the village of Rochdale, England. Most of the inhabitants of this village worked in woolen and cotton mills from six in the morning until eight o'clock at night for the magnificent sum of about 45 cents a week. The workers asked for an increase in pay and were refused. A strike was called and maintained, but the workers lost out. Some sailed to America but the majority remained to continue their struggle for a bare existence.

Twenty-seven men and one woman in the village banded together and resolved to save their spare pennies. They called themselves "The Equitable Society of Rochdale Pioneers." When they had saved about $140 they opened a cooperative store on December 21, 1844, and in the first year did a $3500 business. Membership grew to 74 and capital to $900. Seven years later the Pioneers bought a flour mill; two years later, a shoe factory, and by 1855 they owned a cotton and woolen mill. This all happened, a long time ago, but since then more than 7,500,000 English men and women have joined cooperatives.

Under present economic conditions, the consumer pays not only all the costs of production and distribution, but also the profits of all the producers and distributors, and while the consumer is paying all the costs and the profits, he does not receive any part of the net earnings of production or distribution and does not share in controlling the price of the commodities for which he pays.

Although the chain store operates on a small margin of profit, and is a factor in increasing the buying power of the consumer, it does not return the profits to customers. Also, the chain stores tend to create monopolies and decrease control of prices in the hands of the producing groups. On the other hand, cooperatives tend to break down monopolies.

HOW COOPERATIVE STORES FUNCTION

The usual method of creating a cooperative store is as follows: A group of people, or a Local Union, decides to establish a cooperative store. Membership is open to any one of the group and an individual may buy one or more shares, usually no limit being set, but regardless of the number of shares a member may have, he has only one vote. In ordinary business corporations, a man who has 100 shares has 100 votes, while the man with one share has but one vote.

Commodities sell at current market prices for cash or credit, and dividends are paid on the basis of patronage. Patronage is not compulsory, but the more patronage the larger the dividends. In time this tends to force down prices in the community and the consumers' buying power is increased. Membership shares are sold at a nominal cost of from $5 to $15. Usually no return is received on membership shares, but a member receives his proportionate patronage dividends. If he wishes, the member may buy capital shares and receive a return of 1½ to 8 per cent on a share, but capital shares have no vote.

A board of directors is elected by the members and they have the handling of the store. They hire a competent manager and he makes all reports to the directors. It is necessary to devise some method for gathering information regarding the amount of each member's purchases in order to compute the proper share in the distribution of earnings. One popular method is the use of sales slips for every purchase. Usually the slips are filed during the current month and posted to individual ledger accounts in a membership sales ledger at the end of the month.

The Cooperatives have proven more than satisfactory in a great many communities and today there are more than 465,000 cooperatives in the world with a membership of more than 139,000,000 people. This number is increasing every day.

Trip to York's Camps

(Continued from Page 1)

years ago for the accommodation of Company E of the 103rd Infantry, N. G., now on duty in Florida, is located in what used to be left-field in the old baseball park. A new park and playground is now under construction on the old Russell Farm across Millinocket Stream. Many home-runs have been scored when some of Millinocket's sluggers poled them out into the river.

Remember "Billy" Jones, Alfred Gonya, "Crook" Mackin, Henry Barker and the Boynton brothers of the old Millinocket Tigers? They used to park the old apple in the stream quite often. That was about 30 years ago.

But, to get back to the convention. The housing committee has made arrangements with owners of private homes to take care of those delegates who prefer to have more privacy than is afforded in any hotel. Delegates preferring to stay in some of the best private homes in Millinocket should get in touch with the committee as soon as possible.

One of the features of the convention will be a trip to York's Sporting Camps up on Kidney Pond. It is planned to have delegates, and others who wish to make the trip, assemble at the Armory, where cars will be waiting in the early afternoon to take care of everybody without crowding. The cars will start off in parade fashion about 1:30 o'clock, and driving slowly, will make the trip before 3:00 o'clock.

Those who have never had a close-up of nature will get a thrill of a lifetime as they proceed along a first-class road by Smith Pond, Millinocket Lake, separated from Ambejejus by a man-made dyke where hundreds of private camps are located, and then on through a burnt land where the results of somebody's carelessness can be seen, where an excellent view of the mountain is worth the trouble of the afternoon; then on through Abol Field and Abol Stream and a little further is the start of Abol Trail to the top of Katahdin, about five miles before coming to Katahdin Stream, where a dozen stone fireplaces and as many lean-tos have been erected for the accommodation of hundreds of tourists who use this spot as a base for their ascent of Maine's loftiest peak.

The mountain has been in sight nearly every step of the way so far, but now we branch off and continue by several lakes and streams on to Kidney Pond, to the sporting camps that are visited every year by the elite of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and other large cities of the East.

It is planned to have a first-class banquet for all who are hungry—and no one ever breathes the pure mountain air without feeling the pangs of hunger. An opportunity to catch some big Rainbow trout, togue and salmon will be given all who make the trip. All that is necessary is a license, fish-ing tackle and a bit of luck. The first can be bought at the camp, the second can be borrowed, but don't forget to have the last with you.

Delegates who would prefer to visit the largest paper mill in the country rather than commune with nature during the afternoon and evening, will also be accommodated. Here they will see ten paper machines under one roof turning out streams of news-print paper at the rate of more than 1000 feet per minute on six of the machines and 700 feet per minute on the slower jobs. These machines turn out about 700 tons of paper every 24 hours. Competent guides will lead both sightseeing trips, either of which will be long remembered by the visitors, and well worth the time.

Millinocket, known throughout the country as the Magic City, is a town of about 6,000 persons, made up of English, Scotch, Irish, French, Italian, Polish and a dozen other nationalities—all living in harmony. About one-third of the population attends school. To see them pouring out of any one of the four modern school buildings at noon, a stranger would believe the town had a population of 25,000.

The main street, more than a mile long, is called Penobscot avenue. Here is the business life of Millinocket. Both sides of the street are lined with smart shops, up-to-date stores, restaurants, beer gardens and movie houses, where delegate may see the latest pictures, buy anything from a collar button to a ton of coal, get their hot-dogs or may quench their thirst; or if they want a real Italian spaghetti feed they can visit Little Italy.

While the business section is only about five city blocks in length, Automobile Row is located just behind. Here are most of Millinocket's service stations, sales rooms and garages.

Facing Automobile Row are five vacant blocks that have been reserved for 40 years as the location for Millinocket's railway station. One of these blocks is now being made into a playground for Aroostook avenue grammar school. Another is banked and flooded every winter and used as the town skating rink, where members of the younger set put figure "8's". The others are used by wood dealers and as automobile graveyards. Perhaps some days this space will be used for its original purpose.

Delegates and visitors who wish to chase a little white ball may make the rounds of the Hill Crest Golf Club. It is an ideal course without the nineteenth hole but with more hazards than a porcupine, a game-warden or an angry woman. Par on this course is about 70, but the only time we tried it we used that many strokes before we got off the tee in the right direction. We were all one afternoon playing the first three holes and the only way to see all nine holes before dark was as a kibitzer. We broke three of our clubs, lost 17 balls and our austere dignity. We prefer softball bats to golf sticks for Christmas.

Nearly 150 delegates are expected to attend this four-day convention, beginning June 19th. The State Branch has increased its membership by leaps and bounds in the past few years. All affiliated organizations are urged to send their full quota of delegates to help make this convention the best in the history of Maine's Labor movement.

The Central Labor Union is extending a personal invitation to all to come to Millinocket and make this an outstanding occasion, and their only reward will be to know that their efforts have been appreciated.

So, on to Millinocket—the Magic City and Gateway to majestic Mr. Katahdin.

Heinz Co. Signs A. F. L. Agreement

The H. J. Heinz Company signed an agreement with the American Federation of Labor Local Union covering the 1200 of the 2250 employes at the plant here. It was the first labor agreement with an "outside" union signed by the firm since it was established in 1869.

New York Paper

(Continued from Page 1)

contract with the CIO. It is assumed that Mr. Hurley collected a generous fee. Mr. Davis has created the impression that he lent his good offices as a favor to his friend, Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Sinclair coup created something of a sensation in the oil world because it cracked the united front of the big oil companies in Mexico. Standard and Shell retained Donald Richberg, former head of the NRA, to handle their Mexican claims. He has not yet succeeded in getting back his clients' properties.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Lewis were first brought together by Walter Jones. Mr. Davis's Washington lobbyist, some time before March 18, 1938, when President Cardenas signed a decree expropriating foreign-owned oil properties. By that time, Mr. Lewis had persuaded Vincente Lombardo Toledano, Mexican labor leader, and a power in the Cardenas Government that Mr. Davis was capable of buying oil from the Mexican Government and selling it in Germany.

Mr. Davis later did all Mr. Lewis said he could do. In fact, he shipped so much oil to Germany that the Nazis piled up big enough reserve by the fall of 1939 to undertake the conquest of Europe in the face of a British blockade.

In December, 1938, while Mr. Davis chartered tankers, Supreme Court Justice Xavior Icaza visited Washington. Justice Icaza turned up here with the explanation that he had been sent by Senor Toledano to find out what had happened to the Davis deal. He said that it had been agreed that Mr. Davis would pay "commissions" to Mexican and U. S. labor organizations on his Mexican oil deals and that the split would be "feefty-feefty". Senor Icaza conferred with Lee Pressman, counsel to the CIO, and with Mr. Lewis, and then proceeded to New York for other conferences which, he said, had been arranged for him by Mr. Pressman.

The Mexican jurist then returned to Mexico City by way of Hollywood. But he came back to Washington in the summer of 1940 and again conferred with Mr. Lewis. This time Mr. Lewis placed his automobile and chauffeur at Senor Icaza's disposal.

Senor Icaza, it now develops, had been retained by Mr. Davis to perform certain legal services and was paid generous fees. When the legality of the oil expropriation order came before the Mexican Supreme Court he disqualified himself from passing judgement. But he wrote an unofficial opinion upholding the seizure without reservation and his tract was widely circulated as propaganda.

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EAST MILLINOCKET

Pres. Huggins Believed to Be Only Papermaker Who Became Member Of Union Through Correspondence

Worked in Small Town Paper Mill in Texas When Prompted to Apply for Membership by "Tourist" Paper Maker Who Stopped Over In Town Long Enough to Get "Hand-Out"—Worked His Way Up To Head of Brotherhood Within Few Years Upon Retirement of President Matthew Burns.

By LEONARD GAGNON

East Millinocket, Me. — President Arthur Huggins of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers honored Medway Local 182 and Millinocket Local 27 by his presence at recent meetings of both local unions. The meeting here was held in the morning and at Millinocket in the afternoon. About 65 members of Medway Local 182 were present in the morning and more than 150 members of Millinocket Local 210 were present at the afternoon meeting. A delegation of ten members from here, and five from Madison also attended the session in Millinocket.

While President Huggins has visited both locals in the past 20 years as an organizer and later as international secretary, this marked his first official visit as president of the organization. Many questions of interest to Paper Makers were asked and answered during both meetings, because having an international officer in this section of the country is rather unusual, as we are off the beaten track.

It is generally believed that President Huggins is the only member of the Union ever to have joined the organization by mail. As we recall the story, Arthur Huggins was employed as a beater engineer in his home town of Orange, Texas, there being a small paper mill there when he was a young man. Unionism was unheard of in that part of the country by most of the natives and those who had heard, believed that a union man was little better than an outlaw.

Well, it so happened that a migratory paper maker, who had worked in most mills, got off a slow freight train in Orange early one morning and found his way into the mill before the superintendent knew that a stranger was in town. Of course, no work was to be had in the small local mill and, as traveling paper makers in those days did not care much about working anyway, so long as they could get the smell of sulphite and a "hand-out" they were satisfied.

"BUM" WAS GOOD UNION MAN

Although not being a very steady worker, this "bum" was a good union man and always carried a paid-up card, which he showed to Huggins after talking to him in the early morning. Becoming interested in unionism, Huggins inquired as to how he should go about joining the Paper Makers' Union. He was advised to write to Headquarters at Albany, N. Y., which he did, and was soon rewarded with an application, which he filled out and returned, and was soon accepted as a member of Headquarters while 2,500 miles from his local.

Shortly after becoming a member, Brother Huggins decided to journey North and see for himself the benefits of organization. He went to work in Holyoke, Mass., for a short time and then was put on the road as an organizer by the then president of the Brotherhood, J. T. Carey. He was an organizer for about 12 years, later being elected International Secretary, an office he ably filled for ten years, and when Matthew Burns retired from the office of president, Brother Huggins was elected to that office, assuming his new duties on January 1, 1940.

GAMBLER WHO FAILED TO "MAKE GOOD"

While we cannot vouch for the following stories, they were told us in good faith, with the understanding they would be reported exactly as told.

A young fellow was addicted to all forms of gambling, particularly the great American game of poker. Sometimes he made a bit of change but more often he lost. How he explained his losses to his "better-half" is not known, but after dropping nearly his entire week's pay one evening, he got up from the table and asked the operator of the game for a loan of $50 so as to eliminate a heated argument when he returned home. This amount was considerably less than the week's pay, but he could square himself for the rest of it.

The operator, being a very fair and friendly gentleman who understood married life, willingly loaned the money. However, when he tried to collect part of it the following pay-day, he was told to "go jump in the lak" as it was a gambling debt and as such, was uncollectable.

MADE CUSTOMERS PAY FOR CLERK'S ERROR

The other one is about the gentleman who owned a grocery store and who did a large credit business. Finding it necessary to have a helper because of his expanding trade, he hired a young fellow from another town to work in the store.

A young lad of about ten years came into the store to buy a pound of cooked meat soon after the new clerk was hired one day when the boss was out to dinner, and told the clerk to "charge it", then walked out before the clerk could ask his name. The boss was told about the transaction when he returned from dinner. Showing unconcern, he told the new man not to worry about such a slight error, but to charge the meat to 50 regular customers, telling him that those who did not get it would perhaps put up a kick and their complain would be rectified.

You can believe it or not, but it was told me as gospel truth that only three customers refused to pay for that pound of cooked meat.

WHY DOOR SHOULD OPEN OTHER WAY

We often think about a less serious story told about the boss carpenter who sent a couple of men out one day with instructions to erect a small wooden building in which to store dynamite. After the work was completed, the boss came to look it over. Everything was satisfactory except the fact that the door opened inside. This, the boss didn't like and explained to the men why the door should open the other way. If that dynamite should explode while someone was inside, how could they ever get out alive, he asked!

MODERN METHODS

In savage tribes, where skulls are thick And primal passions rage,
They have a system, sure and quick,
To cure the blight of age.
For when a native's youth has fled
And years have sapped his vim,
They simply knock him on the head,
And put an end to him.
But we, in this enlightened age,
Are built of sterner stuff,
And so we look with righteous rage
On deeds so hard and rough.
For when a man grows old and gray
And weak and short of breath,
We simply take his job away
And let him starve to death.

Facing the Facts

(Continued from Page 1)

face the reality of labor organization and deal with it intelligently than to continue a policy of blind and unreasoning resistance.

We have reason to believe that some hard-headed and wide-awake representatives of organized business have managed to convince their less-discerning colleagues that the time has come to exercise good business sense in labor relations.

This idea is not being "sold" to the recalcitrant industrialists on an ideological basis. It is advanced as a cold, common-sense business proposition. We are glad of that because we have much more confidence in the reaction of an industrialist to a good business proposition than to a glowing ideal.

Here is the situation. The factories of the nation are working at capacity with tremendous backlogs of unfilled orders. National defense has brought a business boom. Satisfactory and continuing profits are there for the taking.

Now it would be foolhardy to jeopardize these profits by inviting labor troubles. The smart, business-like thing to do is to stabilize production and prevent labor troubles by signing contracts with union organizations representing the workers. That's all there's to it. It is simple and good business.

"COME ON AND GET IT"

Of course, it makes things nicer all around to dress up a practical policy such as this with a coating of patriotism. Not that we for a moment doubt the sincere patriotism of the great majority of American businessmen. We believe that they as well as the great majority of American workingmen want to do everything in their power to help the defense program. But it is very helpful to have a profit move backing up the patriotic impulses and we have no fault to find with it whatever.

On the contrary, the American Federation of Labor says to business: "We are willing to meet you more than half-way. We always have been. We are glad if business at last has seen the light."

The American Federation of Labor believes in private enterprise. It believes that industry is entitled to make a fair profit. It wants business to believe in the right of workers to organize. It wants business to believe that workers are entitled to fair, decent wages and working conditions.

Likewise, the American Federation of Labor believes it would be suicidal to delay the defense program with unnecessary strikes. It has pledged itself to a "no strike" policy for the duration of the defense emergency. It is just as anxious as business to continue uninterrupted production.

If industry wants to do business with labor on this basis, we say, "Come on and get it."

Depositors Trust Co. Opens New Branch Office in Waterville

Depositors Trust Company added a new chapter to Maine financial history during April by opening a new office in Waterville. The change was effected by purchase of some of the assets of the First National Bank of Waterville and the assumption by Depositors Trust Company of all of their deposit liabilities.

While the sale has still to be ratified by stockholders, it is a foregone conclusion that the sets of the directors will be approved at the meeting to be held on May 21. Richard Dana Hall and Charles W. Vigue of the First National Bank will come over to the Depositors Trust Company in the capacity of vice-presidents. The whole staff of the Waterville office will be retained and few changes will be made to distinguish this from the ably managed First National.

When the consolidation is complete, the Depositors Trust Company will have well over $15,000,000 and rank as one of the top banks from the point of deposits in the State.

In and Out of the News

FEDERAL AID FOR PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Augusta advices state that Governor Sewall has been informed by the Federal Public Roads Administration that Maine's first Federal-aided highway program had been officially approved. Many of these projects are now closely connected with the national defense program, in their military highway importance. An allotment of $1,200,000 had been made, in Federal and State funds, awaiting final confirmation which has now been granted. The work is now ready to proceed.

HIGH TOLL OF AUTO ACCIDENTS

Damage suits for fatalities and injuries incurred in automobile accidents have been entered in the May term of the Superior Court, at Portland to the amount of $94,000. This includes several damage claims for $10,000 each for fatalities incurred in auto collisions.

DEFENSE SHOPS RUSHED WITH WORK

The Maine Development Commission, through Industrial Engineer H. A. Ranger, makes it known that 20 production units equipped to produce defense materials in machine shops are at "capacity". This is the result of the commission's cooperation with the Federal government and private firms. Moreover, it is said that 20 per cent of all such equipment was operating on a 24-hour schedule. There need be no idle machines which are adaptable to such production work, he believes.

FOUR-YEAR TERM FOR GOVERNOR REJECTED

In the Legislature, a bill which would have provided a four-year term for the Governor, was rejected after a brief debate. The measure had been adversely reported upon by the Judiciary Committee.

Opponents of the bill contended that it was "the present custom" to elect the Governor for a second two-year term, and that the legislation was not needed. Those who favored the bill claimed that the four-year term would permit the Governor to settle down to his duties for a reasonable period without being hindered with future election contingencies. It was urged that preparing for a campaign after completing the first term of office hindered the executive in his application to the pressing current duties of high office.

Extensive Alterations At Springer's Store

Springer's newly remodeled Jewelry store on Congress street, has attracted much attention among Portland shoppers, hundreds of whom took advantage of the firm's anniversary sale which followed the completion of extensive alterations to this old established business landmark of Portland.

With the most modern type of wall and counter display fixtures now in use in metropolitan Jewelry stores, Springer's is enabled to present its complete lines of jewelry, silverware, novelties, leather goods, and other stock to the best advantage.

The budget plan of selling Jewelry that was inaugurated a few years ago at Springer's makes it possible for customers to make purchases here on terms as low as $1 weekly.

Seven New Bedford Textile Local Unions Re-affiliated With AFL

New charters were issued by the United Textile Workers of America, A. F. of L. affiliate, to seven organizations in New Bedford during the week, which marked the re-affiliation of these unions after operating as independent unions for three years, or since the A. F. of L. suspended the U. T. W. when it became part of the CIO.

This announcement was made last week by Miss Mary Taccone, Providence, executive board member of the U. T. W., who said as follows.

"Seven textile unions in the city of New Bedford have received charters from the United Textile Workers of America, an affiliated body of the American Federation of Labor. This group of local unions, representing a total of over 8,000 workers, have returned to the fold of the United Textile Workers of America after being independent for a period of three years.

"This group of workers went independent after the American Federation of Labor suspended the United Textile Workers of America because of a CIO split within its ranks. Like the Providence and Woonasquatucket Woolen and Worsted District Council, this group of unions refused to accept the policies and dictates of the CIO.

"William E. G. Batty, secretary of the New Bedford Textile Council, assisted in bringing about this re-affiliation. Unions receiving new charters are the Loomfixers, Carders, Ring Spinners, Knotters, Yarn Finishers, Shearer Attendants and Flasher Tenders."

EMPLOYMENT IN R. I. NEARLY 20 P. C. MORE THAN MARCH, 1940

"Manufacturing employment, payrolls, man-hours and average weekly earnings revealed increases in March. We have reason to believe that because of the tremendous back-log of defense orders, expansion will continue for several months," commented William L. Connolly, Director of Labor. This February-March employment gain was contrary to the usual trend as losses have occurred in nine of the past ten years.

Reports from 288 Rhode Island manufacturers in March, indicated monthly increases from February figures of 1.6% in workers and earnings, manhours were up 2.1%, and payrolls rose 3.2%. A total of 89,041 wage earners received $2,321,173 the middle week in March, an average weekly wage of $26.07.

The number of wage earners employed in March was 12.2% greater than a year ago. Combined payrolls and total man-hours were up over 30% while average earnings climbed 13.1% in the yearly interval. In March, 1940, only 74,702 workers were employed, while disbursements were but $1,722,951, an average weekly wage of $23.06.

Gains were reported by all industries except worsteds, which were off slightly due to a temporary reduction in personnel in a large plant. Jewelry totals increased seasonally. Most textiles contained to climb steadily, with woolen gains leading the current textile rise. Metal plants added 550 workers during the month.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

Only a Nation of Healthy People Can Be Strong; People Healthy Only If They Are Adequately Fed

Statement by Federal Security Administrator in Announcing National Nutrition Conference for Defense, to Be Held in Washington May 26-28—Says Health of All the People is One of Government's Greatest Responsibilities.

Federal Security Administrator Paul V McNutt announced yesterday that seven hundred leaders in the fields of medicine and public health, social work, nursing, home economics and nutrition, agriculture, education, labor, industry, government and community organizations have been invited to attend the National Nutrition Conference for Defense which President Roosevelt has called in Washington, May 26, 27 and 28.

"The purposes of this conference," Mr. McNutt said, "are to report on the present state of human nutrition in the United States and to outline the effects of inadequate nutrition on the health, efficiency, and morale of our people. The Conference will make recommendations to the President for an immediate program of action.

"In this time of national emergency, the health of all the people is one of our gravest responsibilities. Only a nation of healthy people can be strong. And people are healthy only if they are adequately fed. How well fed is America? Not well enough, not nearly well enough for our own security."

In commenting on this Conference, Surgeon General Thomas Parran said, "I regard this meeting of first importance. Every state and every community in this country has citizens who do not get the food they need for proper health and vigor. This Conference must tell us how to translate our knowledge of nutrition into everyday reality for all the people. Forty percent of the American population are not properly fed. The ill-health results mean a slowing down of industrial production, a danger to military strength and a lowering of the morale of millions.

"America must speed up human power as well as mechanical production. Both England and Germany have learned this lesson. So must we. I hope that this Conference will make recommendations to solve nutrition problems at national, state and community levels as an essential part of defense and as a part of a continuing national health and welfare program."

I Get a Big Laugh

Out of the Folks who Stick to Old-Fashioned Paints, then Squawk about poor Jobs!

THEY SAY PAINTING is the job that comes every 3 years. I have to do it over every few years.

I KNOW DIFFERENT

The company who made the paint I used had their eyes open. Right during the depression they forked out plenty of dough to develop and popularize the Bay State 2-Coat System of house painting that started everybody talking.

FACTS ARE FACTS

Here's a new paint made by one of the oldest companies in the business. Been making paint right here in New England since 1846—that's 95 years! When they came out and said their new system outlasts ordinary paint John 2 to 1 they just had to know what they were talking about.

MAYBE I'M CRAZY

But I figured I couldn't afford to go on repainting every few years—I figured here's a job that would really last. And every time I look at the results I get with Bay State and think of the money I've saved, I'm tickled silly!

"Every time I look at my house, I'm tickled silly with the fine paint job Bay State gave me!"

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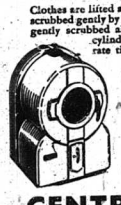
No more lifting heavy soggy clothes—no more bending over set-tubs—no more soaking hands in water! Your clothes are clean and sanitary—automatically washed without your even being present! The dial does all the work!

WASHES — RINSES — DAMP-DRIES All Automatically!

Clothes are lifted and dropped through suds, scrubbed gently by this "tumble" action—then gently scrubbed as they move about in the cylinder—then rinsed three separate times in fresh, clean water.



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LISBON FALLS, MAINE

State Federation's Legislative Agent Outlines Results of 1941 Session As Report for Annual Convention

Greetings: Upon election to the office of Legislative Agent at last year's convention, held in Portland, it became the duty of your agent to work out some method which it was hoped would secure for the Federation some measure of respect and response from legislators, to which the workers of the State are entitled. At the same time, in conjunction with the Legislative Committee of the Federation, it was the duty of your agent to promulgate a legislative program which would be of benefit to the workers.

Later, when the 90th Legislature convened, it was the duty of your agent to scrutinize proposed legislation and attempt to defeat any measures which might be detrimental to the interests of the workers, as well as to support such measures as might benefit them.

In considering our legislative program, there were many elements to analyze. The previous Convention had referred to the Executive Board certain desired legislation and there was a Recess Committee making a study of the need for Wage-Hour legislation within the State.

Some of the referred acts were placed with legislators without making it known generally that the State Federation instigated them. The Local Unions interested in this legislation were informed regarding this and some measure of success was attained through their very able cooperation.

In considering our main program, the Federation was in a unique situation. The "make-up" of the Recess Committee considering the Wage-Hour question held two members of the State Federation, representing the employes. These members were able at most times to anticipate what the results of their studies would be, and thus we were able to build our main program around one important measure which would result from the Recess Committee's report.

This report recommended the setup of a procedure to establish a Wage-Hour Board, if need for such was shown in any industry. Around this, the main program of limitation of hours and the establishment of a State Labor Relations policy was built, consisting of three co-related fundamental measures.

These three measures failed to remain co-related, one going to the Judiciary Committee and two being referred to the Labor Committee.

Due to inter-committee misunderstanding or lack of ability on the part of your agent, or both, the Labor Committee reported unfavorably on the Wage-Hour bill. This created a serious problem as it was necessary to keep this alive if the rest of our program was to be of any benefit to the workers. By having the report tabled in the Senate, final action was held up until the fate of the other measures could be determined.

The 48-hour work week bill was treated to many harmful and unnecessary committee amendments and finally reached the House in a form detrimental to the workers' interests. Your Legislative Agent was unable to re-establish its efficiency and again co-relate the elements of the program. It became necessary, in order to protect the workers, to kill off our own measures in the final days of the session, and it was only through the most able and energetic assistance of President Dorsky that it was possible to do this.

Your Legislative Agent desires to state that his associations at the State Capitol were, for the most part, very pleasant. The various committees before whom it was necessary to appear in the performance of his duties, were courteous and at all times he was treated with respect. The legislators with whom he came in contact seemed to desire to do the fair thing in most instances and only in isolated cases did they seem unduly prejudiced against the worker's interests.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES O. DUNTON,
Legislative Agent.

Among measures acted upon during the closing days of the Legislature, were the following:

Refused to decrease funds for the Maine Development Commission for the next two fiscal years.

Rejected women's poll tax bill by an overwhelming vote, and to reduce the present male poll tax from $3 to $2.

Rejected proposal providing for a change in present State Personnel Law to curtail power of state officials in salary adjustments.

Rejected by a two-to-one vote the bill to impose special and graduated taxes on chain stores.

Rejected Teachers' Tenure bill, to give greater permanency of employment to that class.

Rejected bill to make public school children salute American Flag and to pledge allegiance to same.

Rejected bill to make mandatory a 55-mile speed limit on all highways in the state.

Enacted bill to include school nurses and secretaries under Teachers' Retirement System.

Auxiliary Anniversary Supper Attended by More Than 300

The third anniversary of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Portland Central Labor Union was celebrated with a supper and dance in Frye Hall on April 26th. The principal speaker, Alonzo F. Young, organizer for the American Federation of Labor, complimented the organization and the good work it is doing in promoting the purchase of union-made articles, and their cooperation in other directions in behalf of organized workers.

Entertainment consisted of dance specialties by Lorraine Roberts and Lois Buck, Jean Russell and Louise Nelson; solos by Louise Ferrante and the three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bernard. Dancing was enjoyed until midnight.

New State Assessor Well Liked in Local Union Labor Circles

The appointment of George E. Hill of South Portland as State Tax Assessor was announced recently, and in referring to this, Horace E. Howe, president of the Portland Central Labor Union, said as follows:

"Mr. Hill is well known to the members of labor unions of Maine, who hold him in high esteem because of his devotion to the welfare of wage earners. He is well qualified to fill this important post and his many friends in the trade union movement join in offering their congratulations. The able manner in which he served as State Senator and his favorable record will not be forgotten."

Mr. Hill succeeds Frank H. Holley, who resigned after serving as Assessor since 1932.

Crosley Refrigerators With "Shelvador" is Featured at Ballard's

The new 1941 Crosley electric refrigerators with the "Super Shelvador", are creating great interest among housewives in the market for new home refrigeration, in that this feature, makes it possible to put twice as much food to the front of the refrigerator.

Union members and their families are particularly interested in this Crosley product, as this line of electric refrigerators is union-made.

The Ballard Oil & Equipment Company of Portland, State distributors for Crosley refrigerators, announce that the new 1941 models in sizes to meet the needs of the small or large family, and all with the new "Super Shelvador", are being displayed and demonstrated by authorized dealers in principal cities and towns throughout Maine.

Crosley is the only refrigerator with the "Super-Shelvador", built right into the door, and providing a non-rolling, break-proof egg shelf, new bottle shelf and other shelving that makes possible extra room for all the smaller items that take up valuable main shelf space in other refrigerators.

Buy Union Label products and use Union services if you say you're a 100 per cent Union man.

HORACE HOWE'S COLUMN

Forrest Smith is recovering from an accident suffered when a staging he was erecting at his home, 677 Allen avenue, collapsed. The injuries consisted of a sprained arm and facial bruises.

They tell me the stork is expected to pay a visit to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Fineberg. He is recording secretary of the Barbers' Union and conducts a barber shop at 111 Congress street.

Hyman Erlick, vice-president of the C. L. U., was the subject of considerable praise at the last meeting for his untiring efforts in behalf of the 41st anniversary banquet of the Central Labor Union and the fourth anniversary of Truck Drivers' Local 340, which was the outstanding Labor event of the season.

Paul P. Conroy, financial secretary for Electrical Workers' Local 333 for the past 15 years, announced recently that he would not be a candidate for re-election this year. The majority of the membership hope he will change his mind on this matter, as they feel they have been most fortunate in having such a loyal officer.

The appointment of John Fitzgerald by President Roosevelt as WPA Administrator for Maine, meets with the approval of the workers. Both Labor and business men have found him exceptionally cooperative, and his ability to carry out the duties of his office —which have increased owing to the national defense effort—has proven valuable to the State. It was rumored some time ago that he was to be offered the city managership of Bangor. But he desired to remain with the WPA, which was good news to his many friends, among them being the writer.

Congratulations are being extended to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Foren upon their marriage recently. They reside on Park street, Portland.

Robert Fields reports that trout fishing in the Rangeley region is exceptionally good.

Arthur (Static) Willard has a new car for chasing radio disturbances.

Edward Bates is recuperating from a recent illness.

It was somewhat amusing to hear a story that "Dave" Hastings, secretary of the C. L. U., who was confined at the hospital for a few days, was because of an affray involving a strikebreaker. Is there no limit to the extent of lies some people will resort to in their attempts to discredit union officers?

Andrew Erickson has recovered from a serious illness. He is a veteran employe of the Cumberland County Power and Light Co., and was retired a few years ago on pension. All the boys in Local 333, of which he has been a member for two decades, are glad to learn of the progress he is making.

Burton Orne, Jr. and James Harding of the Cape Steam Station; Louis Wilkins and Dwight Porter of the Commercial Department; Cornelius Lucia and Wilfred Springer of the Meter Reading Department, left Portland with the Naval Reserves. A. I. Hamilton of the Biddeford Division is stationed at Fort Blanding, Florida, with the Army. All have received their Military Service Cards and will be kept in good standing with the Brotherhood during their military service.

Leonel J. Lavigne has resigned from the Maine Unemployment Service to become business manager for the local Painters' Union.

They tell me that several persons took "Al" Russell's comedy skit seriously, and that he has been flooded with requests for wholesale rates. I wonder if any of them have been for perambulators?

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Houghton were visitors at Dixfield the week-end of May 10th.

Joseph Sylvia, president of the Federation of Woolen and Worsted Workers' Union, discussed plans with a representative of the State Federation of Labor relative to unorganized workers in Maine. The plans call for an extensive drive in behalf of these workers, with headquarters being changed from one location to another as the occasion demands. Organizer James E. Curlett, assigned to this district, has accomplished favorable results to date.

After several years in Massachusetts Merrill Crossman, retired former secretary of the Electricians' Union, has returned to Maine and will spend the summer at Cliff Island.

Filippo Pallacci Proud He is Member of Two Local Unions

It has frequently occurred that men who belong to one union refuse to pay dues in two locals while employed in two different crafts. In some cases in the remembrance of the writer, this was the cause for much unfavorable discussion.

Not so with Filippo Pallacci, who is proud of the fact that he pays dues in two Portland unions, thereby placing himself in a position where he can work at one craft when work is slack in another, as both crafts with which he is affiliated are seasonable.

Twenty-eight years ago, Mr. Pallacci became a member of the Freight Handlers' Union, while employed in the Grand Trunk freight house. He had been a member of Hod Carriers and Common Laborers' Union for three years, and idle much of the time during the winter months, he secured work as a freight handler and joined the union.

For more than 20 years he has represented the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers' Union in the Portland Central Labor Union, and rarely misses a meeting.

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Social Security

INFORMATION COMMENTS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By ALBERT N. TARDIF

'20 BRAMHALL STREET PORTLAND, MAINE

Any reader of The Labor News may address their questions to the above-named writer. The questions will be answered through this column. Only initials will be used. If a direct personal reply is desired, enclose a 3-cent stamped envelope with your address upon it.

Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt, in a talk delivered recently, gave full credit to the informational efforts of Social Security Committees and labor newspapers, such as The Labor News, for their cooperation with the Social Security Board.

Mr. McNutt cited the remarkable results obtained through publicity and propaganda in the Board's efforts to reduce the number of unidentifiable wage items, which was a growing problem for the board. I quote in part:

"Four years ago, Social Security was faced with a difficult problem. Thousands of employers did not include the social security account numbers with their reports. We had to get those numbers. How? Did we turn to our arsenal of law and polish up our instruments of subpoena and penalty? We did not!

"We turned to education—publicity, advertising, propaganda, call it what you will. With the cooperation of the newspapers, we conducted an educational campaign directed to workers and employers. We told them why we needed that number. We checked back old accounts. We saw to it that every employer understood the need for accuracy on current reports."

Social Security information such as carried by The Labor News proved so successful in that campaign that now Ivory Soap has to take second place to Social Security for purity. Again quoting Mr. McNutt:

"Less than 56-100 of one per cent of the wage reported wages now prove difficult to identify. Our accounts now exceed the well-advertised purity of Ivory Soap. Moreover, the accuracy of our work is still improving, whereas Ivory Soap has been in that 99.44% rut for many years."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—Can I return to work and still receive my old-age insurance?

A—If an aged worker receiving old-age insurance renders services for wages of $15.00 or more in a month, insurance is not payable to him or his aged wife or young dependent child who may be receiving monthly benefits on his behalf. You may re-establish yourself so far as insurance payments are concerned merely by notifying the Board when the employment has ceased.

Q—What has been the experience with the payment of partial benefits?

A—The Board believes that many workers who might have been entitled to partial unemployment benefits have never claimed them. Partly for this reason the Board has called upon the states to adopt new procedures.

Q—How many states now pay partial benefits?

A—All but three (Montana, New York and Pennsylvania).

Q—What regulation will go into effect June 1, 1941, in connection with partial claims?

A—Eligible claimants who are employed less than full time for their regular employer, after June 1, will be required by the State to furnish a statement of their earnings, to be used as evidence in claims for partial benefits.

Q—I will soon get a job in a defense plant. I have never worked on a social security-covered job before. What should I do regarding an account number?

A—Apply for an account number, and give that number to your employer.

Q—I am soon to be employed on a defense job, and I find it difficult to prove my citizenship. But I can assure you I was born here in this wonderful country of ours. Can you help me?

A—I quote in part an article taken from the Employment Security Review which I believe will help you and all others who have encountered the same problem. In this article, the Census Bureau says:

"This difficulty is most likely to come up among the older workers, the group which possesses skills now in great demand, and whose age, in view of draft possibilities, is no longer a drawback.

"How is the Employment Service officer to eliminate this obstacle to placement of otherwise qualified workers? One answer is to be found in a service rendered by the United States Bureau of the Census.

"Thus, if John Jones is qualified for a job in a machine tool plant which the Employment Service is trying to fill, but hasn't the necessary birth certificate, he can write in to the Records Division of the Census Bureau, Washington, and obtain without charge what is generally accepted as satisfactory proof of citizenship. All he has to do is list the State in which he was living during 1900 or 1920, and the name of the head of the household.

"The Census Bureau will then reply to this general effect: 'Our records show that you were enumerated in 1900 as the five-year-old son of Charles Jones, whose birthplace was given as New York State.'

"If it should be necessary for an officer of the Employment Service to write the letter, he will have to include authorization from Mr. Jones, since Census records are confidential."

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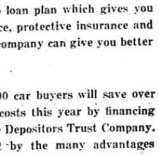

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A. F. of L. Opposes

(Continued from Page 1)

skilled metal trades workers affiliated with the American Federation of Labor the naval construction program is well ahead of schedule. As evidence of the official attitude of the American Federation of Labor and its purpose to give to the Government of the United States the highest and best service possible, I enclose a copy of an official communication which has been sent to all organization chartered by and in affiliation with the American Federation of Labor.

"Do the members of Congress wish to change this situation by creating hatred and enmity in the minds and hearts of labor toward Congress and the Government?

"The best type of service is voluntary service. Labor is giving that character of service wholeheartedly and in a most wonderful way. Congress will delay, rather than promote the completion of the National Defense program through enacting the Vinson Bill into law. Labor will interpret the measure as an attack upon its inherent and constitutional rights. It will be regarded as a blow at freedom and liberty, a form of legislative compulsion that is tremendously offensive to free American workers. It will be regarded as a law which imposes involuntary servitude upon free labor, and which is contrary to the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which reads as follows:

"'Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.'

"I repeat again that I protest in the name and in behalf of the membership of the American Federation of Labor against the Vinson Bill and its enactment into law. I call upon the defenders of freedom and liberty who are Members of Congress to stand with labor and vote against the enactment of H. R. 4139, the Vinson Bill, into law."

SAYS BILL WOULD MAKE MORE "REDS"

In his testimony before the House Naval Affairs Committee, George P. Meany, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, is quoted as having "gone after the proposal with hammer and tongs".

"It will destroy the most fundamental rights of trade unionism," he said. "It will produce chaos and resentment, and make the workers feel rebellious. In fact, this bill will make more members for the Communist party than anything you might do."

"In double-fisted language, he flayed the provisions for 25-day "cooling off" periods before strikes may be called, stating "this would give open-shop employers 25 days in which to lick us."

"We have gone to great pains to avoid strikes, but we don't want Congress to tell us we can't strike tomorrow morning against an unfair employer, if we want to," Secretary Meany said in concluding his remarks.

The committee's chairman, Adolph Sabath (Dem., Ill.), a loyal friend of labor, brought to light some of the most damaging information against the Vinson bill.

PURPOSE OF BILL TO CRUSH LABOR

"We have a defense mediation board which in four weeks settled all major strikes," he said. "Why not leave well enough alone?"

Congressman Warren G. Magnuson, a member of the committee, said: "Congress, not labor, needs a cooling off period."

Congresswoman Mary T. Norton, head of the House Labor Committee, sent a sizzling statement to the Rules Committee, charging that the bill "is not a proposal to expedite defense, but an act to crush labor."

Others denounced the measure in no uncertain tones. Some referred to it as one that would favor "chiselers" and open the way for employers now having "closed shop" contracts with unions to scrap these by organizing "dummy corporations" to take over their business. These, it was said, could claim to be new firms and, as such, forbidden under the act from signing closed shop agreements.

Ford Recognizes

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impartial arbitrator selected by mutual agreement of the A. F. of L. and the Ford Company.

SEES NLRB VICTORY

"This accord will have great effect on those who will vote at the NLRB election to be held at the Ford plant in the near future. These employes, knowing full well that the American Federation of Labor did not have to use a blackjack on the Ford officials, will without doubt cast their ballot in favor of the American Federation of Labor."

Says the Detroit Labor News: "The many A. F. of L. organizational offices in all parts of the city are virtually beehives of activity. The Dearborn office is visited daily by thousands of Ford workers who are seeking membership in the A. F. of L. Federal Local Union chartered for the Ford employes.

"The A. F. of L. campaign is also on the air. Over Station WJBK every evening at 7 o'clock, Mr. Murphy and other speakers report developments of the day and bring the message of the A. F. of L. into the Ford workers' homes."

Court Decision

(Continued from Page 1)

tained in Section 2, Article 2, of the A. F. of L. constitution.

Secretary Randolph, who, according to President Claude M. Baker, was agreeable to the plan of re-affiliation and who agreed to the referendum, has since repudiated his former action, basing his reasons on a Federal Court decision for warning the membership against voting in favor of re-affiliation with the Federation.

Far-seeing members are not in accord with Secretary Randolph. With the suspension of nearly 80 newspapers during the past three years, and the introduction of offset printing and other substitutes for letter-press printing, it is deemed most essential for the future of the Typographical Union that everything must be done to secure the fullest possible cooperation as a means for increasing work in commercial offices.

To heed Mr. Randolph's "danger signal", which is cloaked with mystery and based on a court decision which is in contravention to the present laws of the A. F. of L., will only delay matters that are of utmost importance for the immediate futufe success of the I. T. U.

Members are urged to give this their most serious consideration.

In his message to members of the I. T. U., President Claude M. Baker, who fully realizes the importance of immediate re-affiliation, states as follows:

"The decision will be yours. The writer believes the union should lead in restoring unity in the Labor movement. The ballot which is being submitted for approval by the Executive Council places before the membership the question to be decided in proper form, as provided by Section 2, Article XVII, Constitution.

"Submitted in the following language, can there be any question that the purpose is clear and the intent understandable?

"'Shall the International Typographical Union, when notified of A. F. of L. convention ratification of the "basis of understanding" heretofore unanimously approved by the entire Executive Council, re-affiliate with the American Federation of Labor?'"

In order to secure a clear understanding of the purpose of the referendum, which is to be voted on May 21st, a thorough study of the action taken by a majority of the Executive Council in favor of re-affiliation with the A. F. of L., which appears on Page 491 of the April Journal, should be made. The action of the A. F. of L., as regards affiliated national and international unions, their autonomous and jurisdictional rights, the protection of their properties, and other changes in Section 2 of Article 2, is worded in such a manner that it cannot be questioned by members who have the best interests of the I. T. U. at heart.

Danger Signal

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Their faith in the democratic principles of trade unionism was not simple and complete. They were looking for short cuts to a millenium and they got lost in the jungle of Communism.

The rise of totalitarianism in Italy and Russia and the collapse of democracy in France can be traced directly to the apostasy of labor. When the workers of Italy deserted democracy for Communism, they got Mussolini. When the workers of Germany grew impatient and rejected trade-unionism for Communism, they got Hitler. When the workers of France ignored the danger signals and were seduced by Communist leadership, Hitler moved right in and took over.

It seems to us that the experiences of the workers of continenetal Europe should stand as an everlasting warning and reminder to the workers of America.

It seems to us that the intelligent working men and women of this country, having seen what happened to their brothers in Italy, Germany and France, should never forget the lesson.

It seems to us that the truth in now so self-evident that there should no longer be any danger in this country of Communist control of the labor movement.

Yet there is danger, an immediate danger, the same danger that spelled ruin and degradation for the workers of continental Europe and that danger is right here in our midst in our own country.

The danger lies within the leadership of the CIO. That leadership from the beginning has flirted with Communism and has made bedfellows of Communists. Ben Gitlow, former secretary of the Communist party in the United States, testified at the deportation proceedings against Harry Bridges a few weeks ago that the birth of the CIO was the direct result of Communist plots to capture control of American labor. He ought to know.

In the five years since the CIO was formed, the influence of the Communists within that organization has been strengthened and intensified, rather than weakened.

Today, when the energies of the nation are being concentrated in a mighty national defense program, the CIO with its Communist leadership has become a bottleneck of progress. The C. I. O. and its leadership have never pledged their aid to the President of the United States in the defense program. Instead, they have berated President Roosevelt as a "war-monger." They have denounced the war in Europe as an "imperialist" war, seeking to make Great Britain the culprit. They have never officially endorsed the policy of the United States in extending every posible aid to Great Britain and other democracies battling against totalitarian aggressors. They have fomented minority strikes. Communist strikes and strikes of all kinds, to embarrass and hinder the defense program. They have played the Communist Party game and followed the Communist party line to the hilt.

Up to date they have gotten away with it because those in authority have lacked the courage to put finger on the real cause of the trouble and have contented themselves with criticism of all labor. The American Federation of Labor, which is free of any vestige of Communist control, which is thoroughly patriotic, which is fully devoted to the cause of democracy here and abroad, is getting sick of this official shilly-shallying. On behalf of all American workers, the American Federation of Labor calls upon the Government of the United States to deal courageously with the Communist problem within the CIO or risk its own downfall.

Is Your Congressman

(Continued from Page 1)

the other day that sounded very patriotic—at least the part of it I read in the paper. The papers print a lot of your speeches lately. Almost every day. And it's all on the same subject. in fact, it sounds like the same speech. It's all about guys like me, working guys. You say we mustn't strike. You say anybody who strikes on a defense project ought to be shot at sunrise.

Well, Congressman, I'm against the strikes, too. I always have been. That doesn't mean I haven't been in strikes. Sure I have. Five or six of them during the twenty years I've been working at my trade. And I fought hard, too. It looked like we got licked a couple of times but in the end we always won out. Because we've got a bunch of right guys in our union and we stuck together and we refused to be licked.

Let me tell you something, Congressman, we're not going to get licked now either.

Sure I'm against strikes. So is every other working man. Do you think a guy like me, with never more than a few dollars in the bank and with a family to support likes to lay down his tools and walk out and miss the weekly pay envelope and have to tell the missus and the kids to cut down on the spending, even for food? Do you think that's fun? Do you think I and the others in my union would vote to strike unless we could see no other way out?

Now don't start telling me these are no ordinary times. I know all about the emergency. I am for the defense program 100 per cent. So is my union. So is the American Federation of Labor, to which my union belongs.

We are the boys that are building the defense program. You can't tell us anything about it that we don't already know. We're the ones who are doing the work. And we're glad of the opportunity. We're getting good pay and we're getting overtime and we want to keep on working. We want to do it not only because there is good money in it for us but because we want to see Great Britain lick Hitler and we want to get ready for that guy in case he licks the British so we can give him a taste of his own medicine. We don't want strikes. It ain't that dumb. And we're not having any strikes!

Put that in your pipe, Congressman. Read our union and the other unions in the A. F. of L. are not having any strikes. Read the papers for yourself. It's these strikes which are splashed all over Page One are A. F. of L. strikes? I looked over the whole list this morning and I couldn't find one that amounted to a hill of beans.

Why don't you guys in Congress use your heads and show some sense? Why don't you stop denouncing labor in general and place the blame where it belongs? Why don't you put those Commy so-and-sos in the CIO on the spot where they belong? They're the ones who are responsible for these strikes and they will keep on striking until and unless you put the finger on them, instead of shielding them. They are trying to hide behind the skirts of the millions of decent, hard-working loyal American workers and as long as you fust raise Hell with labor in general, they will be able to get away with their stuff.

But don't start talking about prohibiting strikes of any kind because that's where I and the rest of my gang come in. If our bosses knew we could not strike no matter what happened we'd lose everything our union fought for and gained in the last sixty years. As long as this is a free country, we workers will not be any goose-step.

That's all for now, Congressman. See you on Election Day. Sincerely yours,

JOE BLANK.

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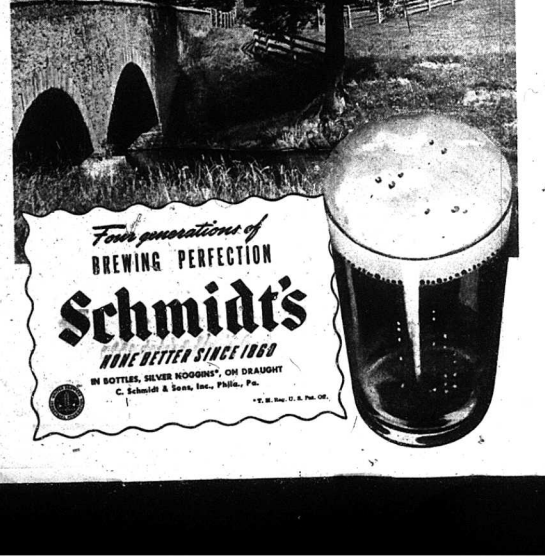
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CLU and Business Men

(Continued from Page 1)

remember that the weather was not any too nice and so this year we are in hopes that the weatherman will favor us and make possible some of the things which the Central Labor Union has in mind for the enjoyment of the delegates.

We are not going to raise your hopes too high as to what delegates will see and do while here; but all may rest assured that Millinocket has the "Welcome" sign out, and all will find that our hospitality is second to none.

There is much work of importance to be done at the convention this year and with this in mind, the Central Labor Union has made its plans; but it has been said that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy", so we do not expect to have any dull Jacks in spite of the work before us.

At this time, on behalf of the organizations of Millinocket and East Millinocket, and on behalf of the business men of these towns, who have always stood behind our local unions one hundred percent, let me extend to all a most hearty invitation to come to Millinocket for the 37th Annual Convention of the Maine State Federation of Labor.

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